

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA
NO. 1:15-CV-399**

SANDRA LITTLE COVINGTON, *et al.*,

Plaintiffs,

v.

THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, *et al.*,

Defendants.

**PLAINTIFFS' OBJECTIONS TO DEFENDANTS' REMEDIAL DISTRICTS
AND MEMORANDUM OF LAW**

Table of Contents

I.	INTRODUCTION.....	1
II.	STATEMENT OF THE CASE.....	5
III.	STATEMENT OF FACTS.....	6
	A. The legislative process for enactment of S.L. 2017-207 and S.L. 2017-208	6
	B. The enacted districts.....	15
IV.	ARGUMENT	16
	A. The Court Must Consider Whether the Defendants’ Remedial Districts are Legally Acceptable	17
	B. The Defendants Have the Burden of Proving That the Districts They Drew Fully Cure the Constitutional Violation.....	19
	C. Four Districts are Still Racial Gerrymanders.....	20
	1. SD 28.....	22
	2. SD 21.....	24
	3. HD 57.....	27
	4. HD 21.....	30
	5. Defendants' Assertions of Colorblindness Are Not Persuasive Evidence that Racial Considerations Did Not Predominate in These Four Districts.....	31
	D. Certain House and Senate Districts Violate the North Carolina Constitution.....	33
	1. The General Assembly Exceeded the Authority Granted It by This Court's Orders and Redrew Districts in Violation of the State Constitutional Prohibition on Mid-Decade Redistricting.....	35
	2. Remedial House Districts Violate the State Constitutional Whole County Provision.....	38
	3. A Remedial Senate District Violates the State Constitutional Compactness Requirement.....	41
	E. Partisan Gerrymander Objection Reserved.....	42
V.	CONCLUSION.....	43

Exhibits to Plaintiffs' Objections and Memorandum of Law

Exhibit 1: Letter from Anita Earls, Counsel for Plaintiffs, to Thomas Farr, et al., (August 23, 2017)

Exhibit 2: Public Written Comments Submitted to the General Assembly

Exhibit 3: Campaign Legal Center August 22, 2017 Analysis Submitted to the General Assembly

Exhibit 4: Campaign Legal Center August 24, 2017 Analysis Submitted to the General Assembly

Exhibit 5: Declaration of Senator Gladys Robinson

Exhibit 6: Declaration of Anthony E. Fairfax

Exhibit 7: Declaration of William R. Gilkeson, Jr.

Exhibit 8: Declaration of Senator Robert Benjamin Clark, III

Exhibit 9: Senate District Compactness and Incumbent Pairing Data

Exhibit 10: Declaration of Dr. Gregory Herschlag

Exhibit 11: House District Compactness and Incumbent Pairing Data

Exhibit 12: Hofeller Deposition Excerpt in *LWV v. Rucho*

Exhibit 13: Gimpel Deposition Excerpt in *LWV v. Rucho*

I. INTRODUCTION

Following an evidentiary hearing on July 27, 2017 on Plaintiffs' motions for additional relief and for a court-ordered timeline for the adoption of new districts to remedy the constitutional violations found in nine senate districts and nineteen house districts, this Court allowed the Defendants until September 1, 2017 to enact new House and Senate districts "remedying the constitutional deficiencies with the Subject Districts", Order 8, July 31, 2017, ECF No. 180. Plaintiffs object to the remedial districts enacted by the General Assembly on two grounds: first, that two of the newly drawn Senate Districts, (SD 28 and SD 21) and two of the newly drawn House Districts (HD 21 and HD 57) fail to cure the racial gerrymandering violations identified by this Court; and second, that one Senate District (SD 41) and seven House Districts (HD 10, 36, 37, 40, 41, 83, and 105) cannot be used as remedial districts because they violate the North Carolina Constitution. The Court has before it all the evidence necessary to make these determinations and should itself remedy these particular constitutional defects in the state's maps.¹ See *Chapman v. Meier*, 420 U.S. 1, 27 (1975) (If the legislative body responds with a legally unacceptable remedy, "the responsibility falls on the District Court."); *White v. Weiser*, 412 U.S. 783, 797 (1973) (District court should "defer to state

¹ Plaintiffs also object to the remedial districts on the grounds that they are an unconstitutional partisan gerrymander, but as explained below, *infra at 42*, acknowledge that the record is not complete on this issue.

policy in fashioning relief only where that policy is consistent with constitutional norms and is not itself vulnerable to legal challenge.”).

It is this Court’s responsibility to fully remedy the constitutional violations suffered by Plaintiffs. *Brown v. Plata*, 563 U.S. 493, 571 (2011) (“Once a constitutional violation is found, a federal court is required to tailor the scope of the remedy to fit the nature and extent of the constitutional violation.”) (internal citation omitted). At the same time, “[t]he remedial powers of an equity court must be adequate to the task, but they are not unlimited,” *Whitcomb v. Chavis*, 403 U.S. 124, 161 (1971). Therefore Plaintiffs ask this Court to order the use of Plaintiffs’ proposed remedial districts only in the areas of the state impacted by the remaining constitutional defects in the Defendants’ districts or alternatively to appoint a special master to draw remedial districts in those limited areas where the constitutional violations have not been cured or new constitutional violations exist. *See Personhuballah v. Alcorn*, 155 F. Supp. 3d 552 (E.D. Va. 2016) (three judge court) (implementing redistricting plan drawn by special master to remedy racial gerrymander).

To be clear, this Court originally found constitutional violations in 28 districts. In order to comply with the Court’s remedial order to correct those violations and remain consistent with the North Carolina Constitution, the General Assembly altered a total of 116 House and Senate districts. Plaintiffs object to 12 of those newly drawn districts as violating the federal and state constitutional provisions applicable to legislative

redistricting in North Carolina. Those objections, and alternative maps that cured those problems, were presented to the North Carolina General Assembly by Plaintiff Rev. Julian Pridgen at the public hearing on August 22, 2017 and by a letter to Counsel for Defendants dated August 23, 2017, well before the final remedial districts were adopted on August 31, 2017. *See* Raleigh Public Hr'g Tr. 143:20-145:23, Aug. 22, 2017, ECF No. 184-10; Letter from Anita Earls to Thomas Farr, et al. (Aug. 23, 2017) (attached as Ex. 1). None of the constitutional flaws identified by Plaintiffs were altered in the final enacted districts.

Plaintiffs do not contend that all 116 newly drawn House and Senate districts must be rejected, but only that the 12 unconstitutional districts cannot be used and alternative, constitutionally-compliant districts must be ordered by this Court. The areas impacted by these districts in each plan are illustrated by the red circles on these maps:

2017 Senate Redistricting Plan



2017 House Redistricting Plan A2



II. STATEMENT OF THE CASE

On August 15, 2016, this Court issued a Memorandum Opinion holding that twenty-eight House and Senate districts are racial gerrymanders in violation of the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, and issued an accompanying order enjoining the state from using those districts in conducting any elections after November 8, 2016. Op., ECF No. 123. In a subsequent remedial order the Court allowed the General Assembly until March 15, 2017 to enact new districts and required the state to hold special primary and general elections using those new districts in 2017. Order, ECF No. 140 (Nov. 29 2016). That Order was stayed by the United States Supreme Court pending review of the merits of Plaintiffs' claims. *North Carolina v. Covington*, 137 S. Ct. 808 (2017) (mem.).

On June 5, 2017, the Supreme Court summarily affirmed this Court's judgment on the merits of the case in favor of Plaintiffs. *North Carolina v. Covington*, No. 16-649 (U.S. 2017). That same day the Court vacated this Court's remedial order and remanded the case for a balancing of the equities and imposition of a remedy. *North Carolina v. Covington*, No. 16-1023, slip op. at 2-3 (U.S. June 5, 2017) (per curiam). On July 31, this Court issued an order allowing the Defendants until September 1, 2017, or up to two weeks longer if requested, to redraw the unconstitutional districts and submit them to the Court for review. Order 8, 10, ECF No. 180. The Defendants did not request an

extension of deadlines, enacted remedial districts on August 31, 2017, and filed the newly enacted plans and related materials with the court on September 7, 2017.

III. STATEMENT OF FACTS

A. The legislative process for enactment of S.L. 2017-207 and S.L. 2017-208

Redistricting committees adopted faulty criteria.

At the outset of the redistricting process, the House and Senate redistricting committees adopted map-drawing criteria to be provided to Dr. Thomas Hofeller, whom the General Assembly again hired to draw its 2017 remedial maps. *See* Joint Redistricting Comm. Meeting Tr. 4:23-25, 69:12-16, Aug. 10, 2017, ECF No. 184-9. One of these criteria directly perpetuated the effects of the unconstitutional 2011 districts by requiring that, to the extent possible, the 2017 districts protect the incumbents elected under the 2011 districts. Adopted Criteria for House and Senate Plans, ECF No. 184-37. That is, applying this criterion, the committee cemented the harms created by the state's 2011 unconstitutional actions in districts that were supposed to remedy the earlier maps' unconstitutionality.

The committees expressly forbade any consideration of racial data in drawing district lines. *See id.* (“No Consideration of Racial Data. Data identifying the race of individuals or voters shall not be used in the drawing of legislative districts in the 2017 House and Senate plans.” (emphasis in original)). Members of both committees pressed the chairmen for an explanation of how the General Assembly could ensure the racial

gerrymanders in the 2011 maps had been cured if the legislature refused to consider racial data when adopting remedial maps, in some cases reading directly from this Court's July 31 remedial order. *See, e.g.*, Joint Redistricting Comm. Meeting Tr. 151:6-154:17, 155:21-156:12, 177:14-19, Aug. 10, 2017, ECF No. 184-9; House Select Comm. on Redistricting Meeting Tr. 21:22-23:7, Aug. 25, 2017, ECF No. 184-18. Rep. David Lewis, chairman of the House Select Committee on Redistricting, explained the legislative leadership's interpretation of this Court's August 11, 2016 opinion and July 31, 2017 order as follows:

Despite the voluminous record that was established by the General Assembly during the 2011 redistricting process, the three-judge panel in the Covington case said that this did not constitute substantial evidence that would justify using race to draw districts in compliance with the VRA. Therefore, we do not believe it is appropriate given the Court's order in this case for these committees to consider race when drawing districts.

...

We do not believe, in light of the Covington opinion, that there is substantial evidence in the record to justify the use of race in drawing districts. Given the Court's order in this case, we believe the only way to comply with the legal requirements regarding the drawing of districts is not to consider race in that process.

Joint Redistricting Comm. Meeting Tr. 149:4-14, 158:11-18, Aug. 10, 2017, ECF No. 184-9. An amendment to allow for consideration of racial data was rejected by the committees in formal votes along political party lines. *See* Joint Redistricting Comm. Meeting Tr. 174:24-186:14, Aug. 10, 2017, ECF No. 184-9.

While stopping short of explicitly adopting “partisan advantage” as a criterion as the committee did in the 2016 congressional redistricting process, the committees broadly provided for “political considerations” to be taken into account in drawing district lines. *Compare* 2016 Contingent Congressional Plan Committee Adopted Criteria, N.C. General Assembly, http://www.ncleg.net/GIS/Download/ReferenceDocs/2016/CCP16_Adopted_Criteria.pdf with Adopted Criteria for House and Senate Plans, ECF No. 184-37.

The proposed criteria were adopted by the redistricting committees within hours of their introduction, without amendment. *See generally* Joint Redistricting Comm. Meeting Tr., Aug. 10, 2017, ECF No. 184-9. The public was afforded no opportunity to comment on the proposed criteria between their introduction and adoption, but members of the public, including Plaintiffs, later formally objected to the criteria and called upon the committees to revise them.² *See, e.g.,* Raleigh Public Hr’g Tr. 78:11-80:14, Aug. 22, 2017, ECF No. 184-10 (comments of Plaintiff Channelle James). The committees declined to revise the criteria in response to public input.

² A week before the proposed criteria were introduced, the joint redistricting committees held a meeting to receive public input on criteria for drawing maps. Recurring requests from members of the public during this meeting included requests that the General Assembly exclude partisan advantage and incumbency protection as criteria, and consider racial data in a way that ensured the racial gerrymanders identified by this Court were in fact cured. *See, e.g.,* Joint Redistricting Comm. Meeting Tr. 29:19-30:23, 58:20-59:11, Aug. 4, 2017, ECF No. 184-8. Members of the public also repeatedly called for the maps to be drawn by someone other than the consultant who drew the 2011 maps struck down by this Court. *E.g., id.* at 33:25-34:2, 44:4-10, 66:18-67:9.

In adopting criteria, the redistricting committees provided no guidance to Dr. Hofeller as to which of the criteria should take precedence over others, beyond the requirement that the maps must comply with state and federal law. *See* House Select Comm. on Redistricting Meeting Tr. 62:4-6, Aug. 25, 2017, ECF No. 184-18.

Redistricting committees minimized and disregarded public input.

More than a week after redistricting criteria were adopted, the proposed remedial maps for the House and Senate were released over the weekend of August 19-20, 2017, ahead of public hearings scheduled at six sites throughout the state on Tuesday, August 22. However, the block assignment files and statistical data associated with the maps, which were necessary for any meaningful analysis, were not released to legislative committee members or the public until midday Monday, August 21, the day before the public hearings.³

The public hearings were held on a weekday afternoon, with six satellite meeting sites teleconferenced into a central meeting site in Raleigh. Several of the satellite sites were filled beyond capacity, in part because they were held in locations that held as few

³ Plaintiffs' counsel sent an email to Defendants' counsel on Saturday, August 19 explaining that the block assignment files and underlying data were necessary for conducting any meaningful analysis of the maps. Plaintiffs' counsel requested that the block assignment files and underlying data be furnished simultaneously with release of the maps, and further requested an explanation for why that information was not being provided at the time the maps were released. Plaintiffs' counsel received no response to their email.

as 25 people in populous areas.⁴ From the start, this arrangement was plagued with technical difficulties, and two and a half hours into the meeting Rep. David Lewis announced a decision to separate the proceedings into seven concurrent meetings.⁵ *See* Raleigh Public Hr’g Tr. 111:1-9, Aug. 22, 2017, ECF No. 184-10; *see id.* at 110:11-16 (announcing that more than 200 people remained signed up to speak as of 6:30 p.m.); *see also* House Select Comm. on Redistricting Meeting Tr. 30:10, Aug. 25, 2017, ECF No. 184-18 (acknowledging “technical problems” during the hearings).

Following the public hearings, transcripts of the comments received at the six sites were not timely furnished to members of the redistricting committee for review. House Select Comm. on Redistricting Meeting Tr. 29:4-18, Aug. 25, 2017, ECF No. 184-18. Nor were the more than 4,300 comments submitted in writing via an online portal, and

⁴ For example, the Guilford County site held 25-30 people, and the Mecklenburg County site held 45-55 people. Aug. 22, 2017 Redistricting Public Hr’g Sites, N.C. General Assembly, <http://www.ncleg.net/documentsites/committees/house2017-183/8-22-2017/Sites%20for%20Public%20Comment.pdf>; *see also* House Select Comm. on Redistricting Meeting Tr. 30:3-8, Aug. 25, 2017, ECF No. 184-18 (“some of the satellite sites weren’t as big as perhaps we would have chosen if we could go back and do it again”). By contrast, a satellite site in Caldwell County, in a part of the state where no districts were being redrawn in 2017, was not full. *See* Hudson Public Hr’g Tr. 2:5-11, Aug. 22, 2017, ECF No. 184-14.

⁵ By this time, many people who had signed up to speak but had not yet been called upon to address the committee had left the meetings. *See* Raleigh Public Hr’g Tr. 122:13-21, Aug. 22, 2017, ECF No. 184-10 (noting “many individuals have left” and overflow room had been closed as roll calls go unanswered). The meetings nonetheless lasted well into the night, with the Raleigh site adjourning shortly before 10 p.m. *See* House Select Comm. on Redistricting Meeting Tr. 29:7-8, Aug. 25, 2017, ECF No. 184-18.

the redistricting committees had no plan for reviewing those comments.⁶ *See id.* at 30:20-31 (“I don’t know that anyone was specifically tasked with looking at them.”).

Plaintiffs submitted alternative maps and objections, which were rejected.

Before either redistricting committee convened to consider the proposed maps, Plaintiffs’ counsel sent a letter to the redistricting committee chairs identifying districts in the map where the racial gerrymanders identified by this Court had been perpetuated. Letter from Anita Earls to Thomas Farr, et al. (Aug. 23, 2017). This letter also identified several districts that had been drawn in violation of the state constitution. *Id.*; *see also* Raleigh Public Hr’g Tr. 143:20-145:23, Aug. 22, 2017, ECF No. 184-10 (comments of Plaintiff Julian Pridgen). Before either committee debated or voted on the proposed maps, Plaintiffs provided the committees with alternative House and Senate maps illustrating how the constitutional violations they had identified could be corrected. *See* ECF No. 184-28 (Plaintiffs’ House plan, introduced after submission as an amendment by Rep. Darren Jackson); ECF No. 184-34 (Plaintiffs’ Senate plan, introduced after submission as an amendment by Sen. Dan Blue); *see also* Rev. Julian Pridgen Comments and Maps, Senate Redistricting Comm., <http://www.ncleg.net/gascripts/DocumentSites/browseDocSite.asp?nID=357&sFolderName=\08-22-2017\Submitted%20public%20comments\Rev.%20Julian%20Pridgen> (last

⁶ As of the time of this filing, those written comments had also not been submitted to this Court. They are attached here as Ex. 2.

visited Sept. 15, 2017). The Plaintiffs' House and Senate maps were introduced for consideration in both committees and on the Senate floor, and in each case were rejected by a formal vote along party lines, in part because racial data had been taken into consideration in drawing the district lines. *See* Senate Redistricting Comm. Meeting Tr. 130:18-15, Aug. 24, 2017, ECF No. 184-17; Senate Floor Session Tr. 120:18-20, Aug. 25, 2017, ECF No. 184-19; House Select Comm. on Redistricting Meeting Tr. 112:3-117:7, Aug. 25, 2017, ECF No. 184-18. No changes were ultimately made to the enacted maps in response to any of the Plaintiffs' suggestions. House Select Comm. on Redistricting Meeting Tr. 19:17-21, Aug. 25, 2017, ECF No. 184-18.

Partisan impact of enacted maps was made clear to legislators.

During the legislative process, the nonpartisan Campaign Legal Center conducted an analysis of the political symmetry of the proposed House and Senate plans. That analysis found a nearly 12% efficiency gap in favor of Republicans in both the House and Senate maps, among the largest gap of any state legislative plan in the nation and well beyond the level experts consider presumptively unconstitutional. Memo from Ruth Greenwood to House Select Comm. on Redistricting & Senate Redistricting Comm., Aug. 22, 2017 (attached as Ex. 3) (finding 11.98% efficiency gap in House map and 11.87% efficiency gap in Senate map, and stating that experts consider gaps of 7% presumptively unconstitutional).

Campaign Legal Center formally submitted this analysis to the redistricting chairs for consideration during the legislative process, and legislators and members of the public brought the analysis and other politically asymmetrical aspects of the proposed maps to the committees' attention. *See id.*; Raleigh Public Hr'g Tr. 167:13-168:18, Aug. 22, 2017, ECF No. 184-10 (comments of Bob Hall); Senate Redistricting Comm. Meeting Tr. 26:24-29:12, Aug. 24, 2017, ECF No. 184-17 (Sen. Ben Clark). The partisan bias in the districts was not caused by the need to comply with the Whole County provision as a second analysis comparing the legislature's proposed districts with those submitted by the Plaintiffs showed that it is possible to remedy the constitutional violations with districts that have less than a 2% efficiency gap. *See* Memo from Ruth Greenwood to House Select Comm. on Redistricting & Senate Redistricting Comm., Aug. 24, 2017 (attached as Ex. 4). No changes were ultimately made to the enacted maps to address the partisan asymmetry identified by the Campaign Legal Center and others. *See generally* Senate Redistricting Comm. Meeting Tr., Aug. 24, 2017, ECF No. 184-17; House Select Comm. on Redistricting Meeting Tr., Aug. 25, 2017, ECF No. 184-18.

Changes made during the process were minor and largely protected incumbents.

The few amendments made to the maps during the legislative process were minor and came largely at the request of incumbents with regard to their own districts or other districts within their county groupings. Senate Redistricting Comm. Meeting Tr. 67:15-19, Aug. 24, 2017, ECF No. 184-17 (adjusting boundary between two districts in Wake

County at incumbent's request); *id.* at 52:5-9 (adjusting boundary between two districts in Cumberland and Hoke counties at incumbent's request); House Select Comm. on Redistricting Meeting Tr. 16:2-18, Aug. 25, 2017, ECF No. 184-18 (amending maps at request of members in Surry, Richmond, and Bladen county groupings); *id.* at 16:18-17:2, 36:4-16 (renumbering districts in Mecklenburg, Forsyth, and Nash counties); House Floor Session Tr. 31:19-32:2, Aug. 28, 2017, ECF No. 184-20 (adjusting district boundaries in Wake County at the request of a county delegation member).

Maps were adopted in largely party-line votes.

All of the African-American legislators in both the House and Senate voted against the 2017 enacted maps on second reading, as did all of the Democratic legislators.⁷ Aside from a few Republican legislators who voted against one or both enacted maps because of their opposition to particular district lines or county groupings, *e.g.*, Senate Floor Session Tr. 59:5-9, Aug. 25, 2017, ECF No. 184-19, all committee and floor votes to adopt the 2017 enacted maps largely adhered to political party lines.

⁷ See H.R. Roll-Call Tr. for 2d Reading of H.B. 927, N.C. General Assembly, <http://www.ncleg.net/gascripts/voteHistory/RollCallVoteTranscript.pl?sSession=2017&sChamber=H&RCS=924> (last visited Sept. 15, 2017); S. Roll-Call Tr. for 2d Reading of H.B. 927, N.C. General Assembly, <http://www.ncleg.net/gascripts/voteHistory/RollCallVoteTranscript.pl?sSession=2017&sChamber=S&RCS=548>; S. Roll-Call Tr. for 2d Reading of S.B. 691, N.C. General Assembly, <http://www.ncleg.net/gascripts/voteHistory/RollCallVoteTranscript.pl?sSession=2017&sChamber=S&RCS=542>; H.R. Roll-Call Tr. for 2d Reading of S.B. 691, N.C. General Assembly, <http://www.ncleg.net/gascripts/voteHistory/RollCallVoteTranscript.pl?sSession=2017&sChamber=H&RCS=926>.

B. The enacted districts

In response to this Court's July 31 order, ECF No. 180, the General Assembly redrew 79 of its 120 House districts and 36 of its 50 Senate districts. *Compare* 2011 House map *with* Map of 2017 House Redistricting Plan, ECF No. 184-1; 2011 Senate map *with* Map of 2017 Senate Redistricting Plan, ECF No. 184-4.

Three of the redrawn districts are majority black:

District	County	Pre-2011 TBVAP%	2011 TBVAP%	2017 TBVAP%
HD 57	Guilford	21.38%	50.69%	60.75%
HD 101	Mecklenburg	50.60%	51.31%	50.82%
SD 28	Guilford	44.18%	56.49%	50.52%

When asked how they would justify adoption of those three majority-black districts in response to the Court's July 31 order, legislative leaders responded either by saying the Court's order did not permit them to consider race when drawing the maps or vaguely suggesting that the Court had left the door open to drawing majority-black districts that were naturally occurring. Joint Redistricting Comm. Meeting Tr. 151:6-154:17, Aug. 10, 2017, ECF No. 184-9; Senate Redistricting Comm. Meeting Tr. 101:4-18, Aug. 24, 2017, ECF No. 184-17.

In addition to the three majority-black districts, nine of the redrawn districts not composed of whole counties have a total black voting age population of more than 47%:

District	County	Pre-2011 TBVAP%	2011 TBVAP%	2017 TBVAP%
HD 31	Durham	44.71%	51.81%	49.56%
HD 32	Granville, Vance, Warren	36.22%	50.45%	49.12%

HD 38	Wake	31.63%	51.37%	48.30%
HD 43	Cumberland	48.69%	51.45%	49.96%
HD 72	Forsyth	43.40%	45.02%	47.51%
HD 99	Mecklenburg	28.29%	54.65%	49.54%
HD 107	Mecklenburg	50.48%	52.52%	49.39%
SD 21	Cumberland, Hoke	41.00%	51.53%	47.51%
SD 38	Mecklenburg	47.69%	52.51%	48.46%

As with the three majority-black districts, no explanation was provided during the legislative process as to why these nine districts were drawn with greater than 47% total black voting age population. *See generally* ECF No. 184-17 through -25.

In single-county groupings, the General Assembly redrew all of the districts within each single-county group, including districts that had not been held unconstitutional and did not border a district that had been held unconstitutional. *See* Map of 2017 House Redistricting Plan, ECF No. 184-1 (HD 26, 37, 40, 41, 105). Twice in groupings with multiple counties the General Assembly drew districts composed of portions of multiple counties where the district could have satisfied population requirements while traversing fewer county lines. *See id.* (HD 10, 83).

IV. ARGUMENT

Defendants failed to cure the unconstitutional racial gerrymanders in four districts: Senate District 21 in Cumberland and Hoke Counties, Senate District 28 in Guilford County, House District 21 in Wayne and Sampson Counties, and House District 57 in Guilford County. Race predominated in the drawing of these district lines, and Defendants offer no compelling governmental interest to justify those districts.

Nothing in any of the court's orders in this case authorizes or requires the General Assembly to ignore the dictates of the North Carolina Constitution as it specifically relates to redistricting.⁸ However, Senate District 41 in Mecklenburg County, and seven House Districts in the 2017 enacted plans violate various provisions of the North Carolina Constitution. Those districts are not legally permissible remedial districts and cannot be an acceptable remedy for the violations that exist in the 2011 districts.

A. The Court Must Consider Whether the Defendants' Remedial Districts are Legally Acceptable

This Court has both the authority and the responsibility to ensure that the General Assembly's 2017 Senate and House redistricting plans are in fact a true and legal remedy. *See Chapman v. Meier*, 420 U.S. 1 (1975) (reversing the lower court's approval of remedial legislative districts that violated the one-person, one-vote requirement). Indeed, "while a court must not overreach when fashioning a remedy of its own, it must determine whether the legislative remedy enacted at its behest is in fact a lawful substitute for the original unconstitutional plan." *Harris v. McCrory*, No. 13-cv-949, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 71853, at *5 (M.D.N.C. June 2, 2016). The Fourth Circuit's seminal precedent on this question is *McGhee v. Granville County*, 860 F.2d 110 (4th Cir.

⁸ Indeed, Defendants acknowledge that when redrawing districts to cure the racial gerrymanders, they needed to change the county grouping configurations in much of the state in order to comply with the Article II, Sections 3(3) and 5(3) of the North Carolina Constitution which state respectively that "[n]o county shall be divided in the formation of a senate district" and "[n]o county shall be divided in the formation of a representative district." *See* Notice of Filing 6, Sept. 7, 2017, Doc. 184 (explaining that ideal county grouping maps were provided to the Senate and House redistricting committees).

1988), where the court held that when reviewing a jurisdiction's proposed remedial districts, a court must consider "whether the proffered remedial plan is legally unacceptable because it violates anew constitutional or statutory voting rights." *Id.*, at 115. *See also, Wilson v. Jones*, 130 F. Supp. 2d 1315, 1322 (S.D. Ala. 2000), *aff'd sub nom. Wilson v. Minor*, 220 F. 3d 1297 (11th Cir. 2000) ("When ... the districting plan is offered as a replacement for one invalidated by the court and will be implemented solely by virtue of the court's power, the court has an independent duty to assess its constitutionality and cannot ignore substantial evidence of improper racial motivation.").

It is widely understood that a remedial plan which itself fails constitutional muster is afforded no deference. *See, e.g., White v. Weizer*, 412 U.S. 783, 797 (1973) (reviewing court "should defer to state policy in fashioning relief only where that policy is consistent with constitutional norms"). Courts have appropriately refused to implement legislative remedies that are themselves unlawful or fail to remedy the original violation. *See, e.g., Large v. Fremont Cnty*, 670 F.3d 1133, 1135 (10th Cir. 2012) (affirming district court's order rejecting the county's proposed remedial plan because it violates state law); *Harvell v. Blytheville Sch. Dist. No. 5*, 126 F.3d 1038, 1040 (8th Cir. 1997) (affirming district court's rejection of school board's remedial plan because the plan did not completely remedy the violation); *Buchanan v. City of Jackson*, 683 F. Supp. 1537, 1541 (W.D. Tenn. 1988) (rejecting commissioners' remedial plan). Here, in the areas of the state where the General Assembly's remedial districts do not cure the racial gerrymander, and

in other areas where the remedial districts violate the state constitution, those districts cannot be used and the Plaintiffs alternative districts should be substituted as the proper remedy.

B. The Defendants Have the Burden of Proving That the Districts They Drew Fully Cure the Constitutional Violation

Under equal protection jurisprudence, Defendants bear the burden to prove that their proposed remedial districts have fully cured the constitutional violation found in this case. *See, e.g., Swann v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Bd. of Education*, 402 U.S. 1, 26 (1971) (school authorities proposing desegregation plans “have the burden of showing that such school assignments are genuinely nondiscriminatory”); *Dayton Bd. of Educ. v. Brinkman*, 443 U.S. 526, 538 (1979) (school boards have an “affirmative responsibility” to ensure desegregation efforts and a “heavy burden” of showing that their actions “serve important and legitimate ends”); *Vaughns v. Bd. of Education*, 758 F.2d 983, 991 (4th Cir. 1985) (district court erred in placing the burden of “proving the causal connection between the prior unconstitutional condition and the need for ancillary relief” upon plaintiffs); *Everett v. Pitt County Bd. of Educ.*, 678 F.3d 281, 288 (4th Cir. 2012) (it is the inescapable burden of a school board to demonstrate that an assignment plan works toward desegregation, “particularly where [the] plan allegedly causes immediate and substantial adverse effects”).

Similarly, this is the case in other contexts as well. *See, e.g., Muhammad v. Giant Food*, 108 Fed. Appx. 757 (4th Cir. 2004) (burden in remedial phase of class action

employment discrimination suit is on employer); *Coleman v. Brown*, 938 F. Supp. 2d 955 (E.D. Cal. 2013) (where defendant prison officials were found to have violated the Eighth Amendment, the burden remained on the defendants to prove constitutional compliance during the remedial proceedings); *Smith v. Bounds*, 813 F.2d 1299 (4th Cir. 1987) (burden of proving compliance with constitutional standards is on department of corrections after court finds systemic constitutional violations). Defendants must show that their proposed 2017 districts fully remedy the unconstitutional use of race that occurred when those districts were initially drawn in 2011.

C. Four Districts are Still Racial Gerrymanders

Plaintiffs object to SD 21, SD 28, HD 21 and HD 57 because they fail to cure the constitutional violation originally found by this court to exist in those districts and in the area of the state where they are located. *See Covington v. N.C.*, 316 F.R.D. 117, 146-48, 155-56, 163 (M.D.N.C. 2016). As a threshold matter, it is important to note that the Court ordered that Defendants explain “as to any district with a BVAP greater than 50%, the factual basis upon which the General Assembly concluded that the Voting Rights Act obligated it to draw the district at greater than 50% BVAP.” Order 9, July 31, 2017, ECF No. 180. The Defendants’ only explanation is that “[t]o the extent that any district in the 2017 House and Senate redistricting plans exceed 50% BVAP, such a result was naturally occurring and the General Assembly did not conclude that the Voting Rights Act obligated it to draw any such district.” Notice of Filing 10-11, ECF No. 184. Thus, the

only issue is whether Defendants have demonstrated that race did not predominate in the drawing of any of the remedial districts, as Defendants offer no compelling governmental interest to justify these districts.

It is also important to note that Plaintiffs are not objecting to all of the redrawn districts that are close to or greater than 50% black in voting age population. *See supra* at 14-15 (of the redrawn districts that are not composed of whole counties, three are majority-BVAP and nine are greater than 47% in total BVAP). Plaintiffs' objection to these four districts is not based solely on the racial composition of the districts but rather includes circumstantial evidence such as the shapes of the districts and the populations contained within them. While the implications of this data may be contested, the facts themselves, the compactness scores, the district lines and the census data, are not contested.

Additionally, the principles that this Court outlined in its original opinion concerning the relevance and probative value of this evidence to prove that race predominated in the drawing of the districts in 2011 is equally applicable to the 2017 districts. *See Covington v. North Carolina*, 316 F.R.D. 117, 140 (M.D.N.C. 2016) (explaining concepts and categories of evidence relevant to a racial gerrymander claim). Lack of geographic compactness, whether measured mathematically or assessed visually, repeatedly has been relied upon as a "sign of race predominating," as has contiguity. *Id.*, 316 F.R.D. at 141. Similarly, racial demographic data and the race of individuals added

to or subtracted from the benchmark district, “may signify whether ‘race was the predominant factor motivating the legislature’s decision to place a significant number of voter within or without a particular district.’” *Id.* (quoting *Miller v. Johnson*, 515 U.S. 900, 916 (1995)).

1. Senate District 28

The 2017 enacted version of Senate District 28 is contained wholly within Guilford County, as were the 2011 and 2003 versions of the district. The benchmark version of the district before the 2011 redistricting included 47.20% BVAP, which in 2011 was increased to 56.49% BVAP, in part through the inclusion of an arm that “protrude[d] west, then hook[ed] south” into an area of concentrated black population in the city of High Point. Op. at 71, ECF No. 123. In the 2017 version of SD 28, the High Point arm has been cut off at the shoulder by means of a split precinct where incumbent Sen. Gladys Robinson lives, but the district’s core shape and other features of the racially gerrymandered 2011 district that this Court found persuasive in 2016 remain. *See* Map of 2017 Senate Redistricting Plan, ECF No. 184-4; Decl. of Gladys Robinson ¶ 13 (attached as Ex. 5).

The 2017 version of SD 28 has a total BVAP of 50.52%. Additional Statistics on 2017 Senate Redistricting Plan 22, ECF No. 184-6. To achieve that concentration of black voters in SD 28, as in the 2011 plan, the map drawers again “outline[d] areas with a high proportion of African-Americans,” Op. at 73, ECF No. 123, continuing to employ a

reverse “L” shape that follows the contours of the black population of Greensboro while majority-white areas of the city are left out of the district. Decl. of Anthony Fairfax ¶ 21 & Figure 2 (attached as Ex. 6). In the 2017 version of SD 28, every majority-black VTD in Greensboro falls within the district’s boundaries, *id.* ¶ 20, and as in 2011 the district splits Greensboro along racial lines, Op. at 73, ECF No. 123.

In maintaining SD 28 as a majority-minority district, the General Assembly chose to add whole precincts with significant BVAP levels to the district, while removing whole precincts with lower BVAP levels. *See* Robinson Decl. ¶ 23. In at least one case, the General Assembly departed from its criterion of respecting municipal boundaries to split a precinct that is home to “several pockets of African-American residents.” *Id.* ¶ 22. In adding population to SD 28 to offset the lost High Point arm, the General Assembly split longstanding communities of interest in Greensboro. *Id.* ¶¶ 19-20. During the legislative process for the 2017 plan, the Senate rejected alternative maps that would have kept communities of interest in Greensboro together while returning SD 28 to its pre-2011 BVAP levels. *Id.* ¶¶ 28-30.

Even without its High Point arm, the 2017 enacted version of SD 28 scores at the bottom of its class in compactness. Only five of fifty Senate districts have lower Polsby-Popper scores than SD 28’s 0.17, which is 50% lower than the 0.34 mean compactness score for the 2017 Senate plan as a whole. Measures of Compactness 6-9, Senate Redistricting Comm.,

<http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2017/s691maps/S691%204th%20Ed.Combined.pdf>.⁹

Alternative maps introduced during the legislative process illustrate that SD 28 could have been drawn more compactly while meeting population goals and other race-neutral redistricting criteria. *See* ECF No. 184-34 at 23.

As in 2011, the General Assembly's retention of the core shape of the 2011 version of SD 28, continued use of boundary lines that outline black population and divide Greensboro along racial lines, selection of heavily black precincts for inclusion in the district while more heavily white precincts are excluded from the district, and disregard of communities of interest and municipal boundaries has resulted in a configuration of SD 28 with greater than 50% total BVAP and substandard compactness scores. Taken together, these factors demonstrate that race predominated in the construction of the 2017 enacted version of SD 28.

2. Senate District 21

In both the 2011 and the 2017 redistricting plans, Senate District 21 is one of two districts drawn in a two-county cluster that includes Hoke and Cumberland Counties. *Compare* Tr. Ex. 2116 with ECF No. 184-8 at 10, and ECF No. 136-1 at 18. In both plans, SD 21 includes all of Hoke County and must reach in to Fayetteville in Cumberland County to have enough population to satisfy the one person, one vote

⁹ Compactness data on the 2017 House and Senate plans is available on the General Assembly's website and was available during the legislative redistricting process but as of the date of this filing had not been submitted to this Court. It and incumbent pairing data also available during the legislative process are attached as Ex. 9 (Senate) and Ex. 11 (House).

requirement. *Compare* Tr. Ex. 2114 *with* ECF No. 184-4 at 2. In the 2011 plan, the BVAP in SD 21 was increased from 44.93% in the 2003 plan to 51.53%. *Covington*, 316 F.R.D. at 146. As a consequence, the 2011 district had a bizarre shape, and contained “multiple appendages, which are so thin and oddly shaped that it is hard to see exactly where the district begins and ends. Some portions of the district are so narrow that the district is nearly non-contiguous.” *Id.*

The 2017 version of SD 21 made only minimal changes to the district. The district still has a BVAP of 47.51%, which is ten percentage points higher than the overall cluster BVAP of 36.86%. Decl. of Ben Clark ¶ 11(d) (attached as Ex. 8). A comparison of the areas moved out of the district and those moved into the district shows very little difference between the 2011 and 2017 districts. *See* Clark Decl. at 3, Figure 1. Most significantly, the BVAP in the Cumberland County portions of SD 21 is 51.66% while the BVAP in SD 19 is only 25.99%. Clark Decl. ¶ 11(a). Numerous other demographic facts further illustrate the continued packing of African-American voters into SD 21, including a detailed examination of a notched intersection between the two districts which can only be explained by the sorting of voters on the basis of race. *See* Clark Decl. ¶ 11(e); Gilkeson Decl. ¶¶ 38-40.

Furthermore, the General Assembly’s disposition of two proposed amendments to SD 19 and SD 21 in the enacted Senate map illustrates that the racially gerrymandered nature of the district remains. An amendment that did not change the racial composition

of the district was accepted, but an amendment that would have made the district lines much more regular but that would also have reduced the BVAP in SD 21 was rejected. *See* Clark Decl. ¶¶ 13-16.

Examining the racial demographics of the district also illustrates how the district lines were drawn to pack most of the black voters in Cumberland County into SD 21. The district cuts through downtown Fayetteville, picking up only the majority black VTDs as well as almost all of the city's majority-black census blocks.¹⁰ Fairfax Decl. ¶ 17-19, Figure 1 & App. 4.

The 2017 version of SD 21 is not geographically compact. The overall compactness score for the district is just .25 using the Polsby-Popper measure. *See* Measures of Compactness 6-9, Senate Redistricting Comm., <http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2017/s691maps/S691%204th%20Ed.Combined.pdf>. Equally damning is the fact that a more compact district can be drawn, as illustrated by the district configuration in Plaintiffs' proposed remedial districts in Cumberland County, in which SD 21 has a Polsby-Popper score of .37. *See* ECF No. 184-34 at 2, 23 (Senator Blue's amendment, which was the Covington Plaintiffs' Senate plan and which was defeated in committee and on the floor of the Senate).

¹⁰ Additional evidence is that an illustrative district drawn solely for the purpose of testing the hypothesis that racial considerations predominated in the drawing of SD 21, shows that, if it were constitutional to draw districts to achieve a partisan advantage, and Plaintiffs contend it is not, the same partisan outcome could be achieved in the Cumberland/Hoke county grouping without packing black voters into SD 21. Gilkeson Decl. ¶¶ 54-57.

Most telling is an analysis performed by Dr. Gregory Herschlag, a member of the Mathematics Department at Duke University. *See* Decl. of Gregory Herschlag (attached as Ex. 10). He used traditional redistricting criteria and established mathematics principles to generate simulated maps of two senate districts within the Hoke/Cumberland county grouping. He then compared the racial composition of those simulated maps to the racial composition of enacted SD 19 and SD 21. The purpose of his analysis was to test the likelihood that districts drawn within that grouping based on traditional redistricting criteria and not race, would include a district like enacted SD 21 with a BVAP of 47.51% for the district and 51.66% for the portion in Cumberland. Dr. Herschlag generated 78,485 maps for the Hoke/Cumberland grouping that contained two senate districts. Not one of those maps contained a district with BVAP numbers as high as enacted SD 21. Herschlag Decl. ¶ 8 & Figure 1. This finding conclusively establishes that Defendants have failed to cure the racial gerrymander in the Hoke/Cumberland grouping.

Taken together, these facts lead to only one possible conclusion. The Defendants have failed to demonstrate that the minor changes they made to SD 21 cured the unconstitutional use of race in the 2011 version of the district.

3. House District 57

The 2017 enacted version of House District 57 is contained wholly within Guilford County, as were the 2011 and 2003 versions of the district. The district changed

radically between 2009 and 2011, when the General Assembly reconfigured HD 57 to create a third majority-black House district in Guilford County. Op. at 121, ECF No. 123 (noting “almost no discernable overlap” between the 2009 and 2011 versions of HD 57). In 2011, the legislature increased the BVAP of HD 57 from 29.93% to 50.69%. *Id.* at 120, 121. The increased BVAP in 2011 resulted from two changes: (1) relocating the core of the district to Northeast Greensboro, a heavily black community of interest that had not been included in previous iterations of HD 57, and (2) extending “a tail” east into Sedalia, a predominantly black community. *Id.* at 120-21, 123. In the 2017 version of HD 57, the Sedalia tail has been shorn off, but other features of the racially gerrymandered 2011 district remain. *See* Map of 2017 House Redistricting Plan, ECF No. 184-1; Robinson Decl. ¶ 32.

The 2017 version of HD 57 has a total BVAP of 60.75%, the highest total BVAP percentage of any House or Senate district in the state. Additional Statistics on 2017 House Redistricting Plan 30-32, ECF No. 184-3; *see* Additional Statistics on 2017 Senate Redistricting Plan 22, ECF No. 184-6. To achieve that concentration of black voters in HD 57, as in the 2011 plan, the map drawers again drew district boundaries that closely track concentrations of black population. Fairfax Decl. ¶¶ 26-27 & Figure 4. As in 2011, HD 57 splits Greensboro along racial lines. *See id.* at 123.

This continued pattern of racial sorting may be most stark in the Irving Park neighborhood and southeastern Greensboro. In not only maintaining HD 57 as a

majority-minority district but also significantly increasing its total black voting age population beyond the 2011 level, the General Assembly chose to add heavily black precincts in southeastern Greensboro to the district, while removing majority-white precincts in the Irving Park area. *See* Robinson Decl. ¶¶ 39-41. In doing so, the General Assembly severed Irving Park from a community of interest near downtown Greensboro. *Id.* ¶ 40. And in adding southeastern Greensboro to HD 57, the General Assembly displaced without explanation a distinct, historic, civically engaged African-American community, which has never before been a part of HD 57. *See id.* ¶ 41. During the legislative process for the 2017 plan, incumbent Rep. Pricey Harrison of HD 57 pressed the committee chairs for clarification on why the BVAP in her district was being increased after the district had been found unconstitutional at a lower BVAP level. *See* House Select Comm. on Redistricting Meeting Tr. 119:6-15, Aug. 25, 2017, ECF No. 184-18. Her comment received no substantive response. *Id.* at 120:2-6.

Even without the Sedalia tail, the 2017 enacted version of HD 57 scores below the statewide mean Polsby-Popper and Reock compactness scores for the 2017 House plan as a whole, despite the “inherent compactness” the district benefits from as a result of its location in Greensboro. *Op.* at 121-22, ECF No. 123 (noting that compactness alone does not establish that race did not predominate in drawing district boundaries); *see* Measures of Compactness 8-10, House Redistricting Comm., <http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2017/h927maps/HB%20927%203rd%20Ed.Combined.pdf>

. Plaintiffs' alternative House map introduced during the legislative process illustrates that HD 57 could have been drawn more compactly while meeting population goals and other race-neutral redistricting criteria. *See* ECF No. 184-28 at 9, 12.

In addition, the General Assembly's retention of the core of the 2011 version of HD 57, continued use of boundary lines that outline black population and divide Greensboro along racial lines, selection of heavily black precincts for inclusion in the district while more heavily white precincts are excluded from the district, and disregard of communities of interest has resulted in a configuration of HD 57 with greater than 50% total BVAP and substandard compactness scores. Taken together, these factors demonstrate that race predominated in the construction of the 2017 enacted version of HD 57.

4. House District 21

In finding that the 2011 version of House District 21 was an unconstitutional racial gerrymander, this court noted that at 51.90% BVAP and a Reock score of .19, splitting three counties, and dividing seven municipalities, the district geography indicated that race was the predominant motive for drawing the district lines. *Covington*, 316 F.R.D. at 155-56. The 2017 version of HD 21 is even less compact. Its Reock score is .12, standing alone as the absolute lowest of all 120 house districts. Measures of Compactness 8-10, House Redistricting Comm. <http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2017/h927maps/HB%20927%203rd%20Ed.Combined.pdf>

. On the Polsby-Popper measure the district scores .29, which is in the lowest 10% of all 120 districts.

While the 2017 version is now contained in just two counties, Wayne and Sampson, the irregular shape continues to follow the racial demographics of the region, stretching up to Goldsboro and down to Clinton to pick up the black populations in those areas. Fairfax Decl. ¶¶ 22-25 & Figure 3. This district is one of seven districts that must be drawn in a seven county grouping. *See* ECF No. 136-1 at 21. In contrast to the minimal changes made by the Defendants, the Plaintiffs' proposed map shows that it is completely possible to redraw these districts in a geographically compact manner, where the lowest Reock score for any of the seven districts is just .36 instead of .12. *See* ECF No. 184-28 at 2, 8-10. With a BVAP of 42.34%, this district continues to assign voters on the basis of their race and is not a naturally occurring concentration of black voters. Given this data, the Defendants cannot demonstrate that they have cured the racial gerrymander in HD 21.

5. Defendants' Assertions of Colorblindness Are Not Persuasive Evidence that Racial Considerations Did Not Predominate in These Four Districts

The Defendants' insistence that race could not predominate if racial data was not used by Dr. Hofeller or looked at by the committees is false. Indeed, the Supreme Court has taken it as a given that "redistricting differs from other kinds of state decisionmaking in that the legislature always is aware of race when it draws district lines, just as it is

aware of age, economic status, religious and political persuasion, and a variety of other demographic factors. That sort of race consciousness does not lead inevitably to impermissible race discrimination.” *Shaw v. Reno*, 509 U.S. 630, 646, 113 S. Ct. 2816, 2826 (1993). But even more obviously, Dr. Hofeller does not need access to racial data to know that if he draws a district in approximately the same way the racially gerrymandered district was drawn, it would achieve the same effect, illegally separating black voter from white voters based on their race. And he has said exactly that. Under oath in a deposition earlier this year, testifying regarding his drawing of North Carolina’s 2016 Congressional Districts where again, racial data allegedly was not “used” to draw the districts, Dr. Hofeller was asked “how did you go about ensuring Voting Rights Act compliance in drawing the 2016 congressional plan.” Dep. of Thomas Hofeller 246:10-12, *League of Women Voters of N.C. v. Rucho*, No. 1:16-cv-1164 (M.D.N.C. Jan. 24, 2017) (attached in excerpted format as Ex. 12). His response was that since it was drawn in the same general area as it had been before, and based on his past experience, he did not have to actually look at the racial data to know that the district would comply with the Voting Rights Act. *Id.* at 246:13-247:7. Indeed, here, the district lines themselves reveal that race predominated.

In the same case, the Defendants’ identified an expert witness, Dr. James G. Gimpel, who, when asked whether he thought that the General Assembly considered race data when drawing the 2016 Congressional districts, testified as follows:

You don't have to consider race data. You don't have to consider race data, okay. There's no need to go to race data, you know, to know, okay – especially given the knowledge that a lot of these folks have of what's going on in this state and how long they've been around, you don't need race data to consider race data in order to draw maps that ensure the representation of African Americans in the state of North Carolina. And, you know, one of the ways that you can do that, by the way, and not consider race data is by falling back on districts that look in many ways like the districts from previous elections.

Dep. of James Gimpel 165:25-166:14, *League of Women Voters of N.C. v. Rucho*, No. 1:16-cv-1164 (M.D.N.C. Apr. 27, 2017) (attached in excerpted format as Ex. 13). Dr. Gimpel explains here why claiming to be colorblind by not looking at race data is no proof that race did not predominate in the drawing of a legislative district, particularly when that district is drawn by Dr. Hofeller, who has decades of experience with North Carolina redistricting.

D. Certain House and Senate Districts Violate the North Carolina Constitution

The state's proposed remedial maps also contain several violations of the state constitution and, as such, cannot and should not be approved as an appropriate remedy by this Court. This is the case because “where [a jurisdiction's] remedial plan contravenes state laws that have not been remedially abrogated by the Supremacy Clause,” remedial plans offered by a legislative body must still respect the policy choices that sovereign state constitutional law demands. *Large v. Fremont Cty.*, 670 F.3d 1133 (10th Cir. 2012); *Bodker v. Taylor*, Civ. A. No. 1:02-cv-999ODE, 2002 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 27447, at *5 (N.D. Ga. 2002) (court would not order a jurisdiction's preferred redistricting plan when

ordering implementation of that plan would contravene state law). *See also Cleveland Cnty. Ass'n for Gov't by the People v. Cleveland Cty. Bd. of Comm'rs*, 142 F.3d 468, 477 (D.C. Cir. 1998) (“[I]f a violation of federal law necessitates a remedy barred by state law, the state law must give way; if no such violation exists, principles of federalism dictate that state law governs.”). Here, the General Assembly is not authorized to disregard the state policies inherent in, and commanded by, the state constitution and cannot disregard those commands unless specifically abrogated by this court’s order identifying a violation of federal law.

In *Fremont*, the Tenth Circuit upheld a district court’s rejection of a county’s proposed plan to remedy violations of Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act. The district court correctly concluded that the county, a subordinate legislative body in Wyoming, could not override state law in crafting a remedy if it was not necessary to do so. 670 F.3d at 1148-49. There, state law prohibited the use of multi-member districts in county elections, but the county’s proposed remedial plan would utilize both single-member and multi-member districts. *Id.* at 1136. The court concluded that it was possible to remedy the Section 2 violation using only single-member districts and thus comply with state law. *Id.* at 136-37. Just as the county was subordinate to and controlled by state law, the General Assembly here is subordinate to and controlled by state constitutional law. Where, by alternate maps, Plaintiffs can demonstrate that it is not necessary to abrogate compliance with the state constitution to remedy the federal constitutional violations

identified in this case, this Court should not allow a remedial plan that unnecessarily disregards that ultimate designation of state policy choice—the North Carolina Constitution.

Article II, Sections 3 and 5 of the North Carolina Constitution lay out the restrictions imposed upon the General Assembly when engaging in state legislative redistricting. Sections 3(3) and 5(3), collectively, establish the state’s Whole County Provision (“WCP”) and Sections 3(4) and 5(4) explicitly prohibit the legislature from redrawing state legislative districts, once enacted, until after the next decennial census. N.C. CONST. Article II, Sections 3(3-4) and 5(3-4). As discussed below, the 2017 Enacted Plans violate these provisions, going far beyond the necessary abrogation of the state constitution by this Court’s August 11, 2016 order (ECF No. 123), and must thus be rejected.

1. *The General Assembly Exceeded the Authority Granted it by this Court’s Orders and Redrew Districts in Violation of the State Constitutional Prohibition on Mid-Decade Redistricting*

On August 11, 2016, this Court “ordere[ed] the North Carolina General Assembly to draw remedial districts...to correct the constitutional deficiencies in the Enacted Plans.” ECF No. 123. That order, however, did not, and could not, authorize the General Assembly to redraw districts not required to be redrawn to correct those federal constitutional deficiencies in violation of the state constitutional prohibition on mid-decade redistricting.

The plain language of the state constitution prohibits mid-decade redistricting. N.C. CONST. Article II, Sections 3(4) and 5(4) (i.e., “When established, the senate districts and the apportionment of Senators shall remain unaltered until the return of another decennial census of population taken by order of Congress.”). This state law prohibition controls unless a district has been invalidated by a court. *See, e.g., Crosby v. Nat’l Foreign Trade Council*, 530 U.S. 363, 373 (2000). The plain language of the state constitution on this matter invites no serious dispute over its interpretation and in the only case where the North Carolina Supreme Court has interpreted this constitutional provision, the court went to great lengths to avoid violating the prohibition on mid-decade redistricting. *Comm’rs of Granville Co. v. Ballard*, 69 N.C. 18 (1873). Plaintiffs in that case challenged a state statute that changed the boundaries between Franklin and Granville Counties, arguing that the statute violated Article II, Section 5, because it would have the effect of transferring part of Granville County from SD 21 to SD 7. *Id.* at 19. The Supreme Court said that violation of the mid-decade redistricting prohibition could be avoided by interpreting the statute to mean that while Granville residents would now be residents in Franklin County, they would continue to vote in SD 21. The plaintiffs had urged against such a construction, arguing that it would then violate Article II, Section 5(3), which requires whole counties be used in the construction of Senate districts. *Id.* at 20. But in rejecting the plaintiffs’ arguments, the Supreme Court

established the supremacy of that prohibition against mid-decade redistricting, *id.*, and this Court can and should respect that unambiguous state constitutional rule.

Here, in both Wake and Mecklenburg Counties, the General Assembly has violated Art. II, Sections 3(4) and 5(4) by unnecessarily altering districts mid-decade. House Districts 36, 37, 40 and 41 in Wake County were not declared unconstitutional, and they do not touch a district that was ruled unconstitutional. The same is true for House District 105 in Mecklenburg County. These districts are modified in the enacted remedial House plan in those counties, but it is not necessary to alter those districts in order to correct the two districts in Wake County (33 and 38) and the three districts in Mecklenburg County (99, 102 and 107) that were declared unconstitutional. Gilkeson Decl. ¶ 42-49. Plaintiffs have demonstrated that with their proposed alternative map introduced at the public hearing on August 22, 2017.

This court's order invalidating only certain house districts in Wake and Mecklenburg County does not mandate or allow abrogation of the state constitutional prohibition against mid-decade redistrict except insofar as absolutely necessary to remedy the violation. Moreover, partisan goals cannot trump state constitutional compliance. *Compare* ECF No. 184-28 at 40-51 *with* Stat Pack for 2017 House Redistricting Plan 4-15, ECF No. 184-2 (HD 40, currently represented by a Democrat, is altered to become Republican-performing district). The General Assembly has already redrawn HD 40 and the other identified districts once this decade—its 2011 unconstitutional acts cannot now

justify a complete disregard of the state constitution's prohibition on mid-decade redistricting. Thus, because Plaintiffs' proposed maps in these counties remedy the racial gerrymandering violation without affecting House Districts 36, 37, 40, 41 and 105, it is clear that the enacted Wake and Mecklenburg County House district configurations violate the state constitutional prohibition on mid-decade redistricting and cannot be enacted or approved by this Court.

2. Remedial House Districts Violate the State Constitutional Whole County Provision

The state's remedial house plan also runs afoul of the North Carolina Constitution's Whole County Provision ("WCP"). N.C. Const. Article II, Sections 3(3) and 5(3). The North Carolina Supreme Court first established nine criteria for validly-constructed state legislative districts in *Stephenson v. Bartlett*, 355 N.C. 354, 383-84, 562 S.E.2d 377, 396-97 (N.C. 2002) ("*Stephenson I*"). Importantly here, the court instructed: (a) "[w]ithin any [] contiguous multi-county grouping...the resulting interior county lines created by any such groupings may be crossed or traversed in the creation of districts within said multi-county grouping but only to the extent necessary to comply with the at or within plus or minus five percent 'one-person, one-vote' standard"; and (b) "[t]he intent underlying the WCP must be enforced to the maximum extent possible; thus, only the smallest number of counties necessary to comply with the at or within plus or minus five percent 'one-person, one-vote' standard shall be combined." *Id.* at 383-84, 562 S.E.2d at 397

In 2007, the Supreme Court further fleshed out these instructions, invalidating a state house district in Pender and New Hanover Counties for failure to comply with the WCP. *Pender County v. Bartlett*, 361 N.C. 491, 649 S.E.2d 364 (N.C. 2007). There, at that time, Pender County did not have the population to warrant an entire state house district, and New Hanover County had the population to warrant more than two state house districts, but not three. *Id.* at 494, 649 S.E.2d at 366. The two counties grouped together were assigned three state house districts. *Id.* The legislature drew a house district between Pender and New Hanover counties that did not keep either county whole (HD 18). *Id.* Because there was not Voting Rights Act justification for this drawing of HD 18, the Court held that the Pender County boundaries should be respected and “a voting district that includes Pender County must add population across a county line, but only to the extent necessary to comply with the at or within plus or minus five percent ‘one-person, one-vote’ standard.” *Id.* at 509, 649 S.E.2d at 376 (internal quotations omitted).

There are two instances where the General Assembly violated this rule in the 2017 plan. Cabarrus County has the population to justify more than two house districts. As such, two whole districts must be drawn in the county, with only enough population in a neighboring county added to the remainder of the Cabarrus County population to bring it to within plus or minus five percent of the ideal district population. Instead, in the enacted map, there is only one district, HD 82, wholly within Cabarrus County, and HD

83 traverses the county line to include a portion of Rowan County with Cabarrus County. Where, as here, it is possible to draw both HD 82 and HD 83 entirely within Cabarrus County (as Plaintiffs' map demonstrates), the failure to draw two districts entirely within Cabarrus County violates the Supreme Court's instructions from *Stephenson I* on maximum compliance with the WCP.

Likewise, House District 10 also does not comply with the North Carolina Supreme Court's instructions from *Stephenson I*. House District 10 is at one end of a seven-county cluster. Greene County, where that district is based in the proposed remedial plan, does not have enough population to support a House District on its own. Enough population could be added from the adjacent and larger county, Wayne County, to satisfy the equal population requirement with only one county traverse. That construction would be consistent with the state constitutional commands as defined by the North Carolina Supreme Court and as Dr. Hofeller explained in sworn testimony. *See Stephenson I*, 355 N.C. at 384, 562 S.E.2d at 397 ("only the smallest number of counties necessary to comply with the at or within plus or minus five percent 'one-person, one-vote' standard shall be combined"); *see also* Hofeller Testimony, *Covington* Trial Tr. Vol V, at 10:18-23 (Apr. 15, 2016) ("Also, if you have, for instance, a two-county group, the smaller county with the smallest population should be left intact, and the larger county should make up the share that the smaller county needs to bring it to the proper population."). Instead of simply adding the population from Wayne County necessary to

bring a Greene County-based district up to within plus or minus five percent of the ideal population, House District 10 traverses two counties—Wayne County and then stretches into Johnston County. Because Plaintiffs’ House map demonstrates that it is possible to draw this cluster with the same number of traverses and the maximally compliant version of HD 10 (Greene and Wayne Counties only), the enacted district violates the WCP.

3. *A Remedial Senate District Violates the State Constitutional Compactness Requirement*

Finally, SD 41 in Mecklenburg County also violates the WCP because it is grossly non-compact. In *Stephenson v. Bartlett*, 357 N.C. 301, 582 S.E.2d 247 (2003) (“*Stephenson II*”), the North Carolina Supreme Court upheld a trial court’s rejection of the legislature’s remedial redistricting plans because the trial court found that districts in the remedial map demonstrated “substantial failures in compactness.” *Id.* at 309, 582 S.E.2d at 252. The trial court found that districts were not sufficiently compact, within a county, when they were drawn “in a horseshoe manner,” combined northern parts of the county with southern parts of the county, and “jut[ted]” and “meander[ed]” throughout the county. *Id.* at 310-11, 582 S.E.2d at 253. The trial court additionally emphasized that the challenged districts were “not compact, particularly as compared to the way in which they might have been drawn as demonstrated by plaintiffs’ [proposed Senate Plan].” *Id.* at 311, 582 S.E.2d at 253.

Likewise, in the instant case, SD 41 exhibits these very same traits: the district is a horseshoe shape, starting in the northern part of the county before meandering along the

county's western boundary, at times narrowing dramatically, before jutting down to capture the county's southern-most point. SD 41 has the absolute lowest compactness score of any senate district in the entire plan on the Reock measure. At .19, there is not another district that comes anywhere close to that number, *see* Measures of Compactness 6-9, Senate Redistricting Comm., <http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2017/s691maps/S691%204th%20Ed.Combined.pdf>, and it is well below the mean of .42 for all senate districts in the same plan. *See* Gilkeson Decl. ¶ 12. The district is also at the bottom of the scale on the Polsby-Popper measure of compactness, at .13. *See* Measures of Compactness 6-9, Senate Redistricting Comm., <http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2017/s691maps/S691%204th%20Ed.Combined.pdf>.

Plaintiffs' alternative map draws that district in a substantially more compact manner. Gilkeson Decl. Ex. B. Thus, following the North Carolina Supreme Court's straightforward rejection of remedial districts that do just the same, this Court should reject SD 41 as violating the state constitutional compactness requirement.

E. Partisan Gerrymander Objection Reserved

Plaintiffs contend that both the House and Senate plans are unconstitutional partisan gerrymanders in violation of the First and Fourteenth Amendments. However, as noted by the trial court in *Harris v. McCrory*, at this stage of the proceedings, without even a limited opportunity for discovery by the parties, the Court does not have the record before it to resolve this question. *See Harris v. McCrory*, No. 1:13-cv-949, 2016

U.S. Dist. LEXIS 71853, at *8 (M.D.N.C. June 2, 2016) (“[I]t does not seem, at this stage, that the Court can resolve this question based on the record before it.”). Unlike Plaintiffs’ other objections, which are based on prior findings of fact, and undisputed facts in the record, addressing whether these districts are partisan gerrymanders requires more evidence.

Plaintiffs therefore ask this Court to make clear that whatever disposition it makes with regard to Plaintiffs other objections does not constitute, or imply, a finding that these maps are not partisan gerrymanders, or foreclose any additional challenges to the 2017 House and Senate plans on those grounds. *See id.*, (“The Court reiterates that the denial of the plaintiffs' objections does not constitute or imply an endorsement of, or foreclose any additional challenges to, the Contingent Congressional Plan.”).

V. CONCLUSION

Plaintiffs respectfully request that this court sustain their objections to Senate Districts 21, 28 and 41; and House Districts 10, 21, 36, 37, 40, 41, 57, 83, 105 on the grounds identified herein, and Order the Defendants to conduct the 2018 legislative elections using their 2017 Senate Districts with the Plaintiffs’ proposed districts in the 1) Guilford, 2) Mecklenburg and 3) Cumberland county groupings; and their 2017 House Districts with the Plaintiffs’ proposed districts in the following county groupings: 1) Guilford, 2) Wake, 3) Mecklenburg, 4) Rowan, Cabarrus, Stanly, and 5) Lee, Harnett, Johnston, Wayne, Greene, Sampson and Bladen. In the alternative, Plaintiffs request that

the Court sustain their objections and order a special master to redraw the districts in these limited county groupings.

Respectfully submitted this 15th day of September, 2017.

POYNER SPRUILL LLP

**SOUTHERN COALITION FOR
SOCIAL JUSTICE**

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this date I have electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of Court using the CM/ECF system, which will provide electronic notification of the same to the following:

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This 15th day of September, 2017.

/s/ Anita S. Earls
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Exhibit 1



VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

August 23, 2017

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Senate Committee on Redistricting
House Select Committee on Redistricting
North Carolina General Assembly
16 West Jones Street
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Re: 2017 Proposed Remedial Maps – House and Senate

Dear Counsel and Members of the Redistricting Committees,

On behalf of Plaintiffs in *Covington v. North Carolina*, we write you today to offer alternative plans for the North Carolina State House and State Senate that remedy the constitutional violations identified by the three-judge court in *Covington* and also comply with the state and federal constitution in all other regards. Additionally, based on our initial analysis, your proposed plans do not offer an adequate remedy and do not represent appropriate remedies free from other state and federal constitutional flaws. We would like to take this opportunity to highlight some of those flaws for you.

Constitutional Flaws in the State House and Senate Remedial Plans

First, it is plain that in several areas of both the House and Senate proposed maps, the constitutional violations are not cured and, indeed, the racially gerrymandering continues. For example, proposed Senate District 21 retains the same odd shape as invalidated Senate District 21, with the edges of the protrusion into Cumberland County only slightly smoothed out. Dr. Hofeller obviously does not need access to racial data to know that if he draws the district in approximately the same way the racially gerrymandered district was drawn, it would achieve the same effect—the illegal separation of black from white voters in Cumberland County and the packing of black voters into the district, thus limiting their political impact.

In the House, we observe the same phenomenon in Guilford County, where House Districts 57, 58 and 60 are centered right over their locations in the 2011 map—Dr. Hofeller again does not need access to racial data to know that he if he puts the new district in exactly the same location as it was in their unconstitutional form, they will have the same effect. Likewise,

while House District 21 is now in only two counties, as opposed to three, it is still very non-compact and appears to us to be drawn in a way to capture black populations in those two counties.

We anticipate there may be other examples of this problem that we may determine with some additional time to review the proposed maps. What is clear is that these districts do not fully correct the constitutional violations identified by the three-judge panel, whose findings were unanimously affirmed by the United States Supreme Court. We request that these errors be remedied immediately and in full. Absent such action, we believe the court will have to draw a plan itself that fully remedies the violations, as it will not be able to approve these districts as an appropriate remedy.

Additionally, analyses performed by the Campaign Legal Center (“CLC”) and submitted to the Committees on August 22, 2017, confirm that these proposed remedial plans are in fact, grossly unconstitutional partisan gerrymanders. Redistricting plans are unconstitutional where they treat voters unequally, diluting the electoral influence of one party’s supporters in violation of the Equal Protection Clause. CLC performed an efficiency gap analysis of the committee’s proposed plans after the data was released late Monday morning (August 21, 2017). The efficiency gap analysis employed by CLC has: (1) been endorsed by federal courts, *see, e.g., Whitford v. Gill*, 218 F. Supp. 3d 837 (W.D. Wis. Nov. 21, 2016); (2) is a peer-reviewed methodology, *see* Eric McGhee, *Measuring Efficiency in Redistricting*, 16 ELECTION L.J. (forthcoming 2017), available at https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3007401; and (3) can be used prospectively (and accurately) to predict the efficiency gap in proposed plans. *Compare LWVNC v. Rucho*, 1:16-cv-01164, ECF No. 1 at ¶9 (M.D.N.C. Sept. 22, 2016) (Complaint) with Plaintiffs’ Response in Opposition to Motion to Dismiss, *LWVCNC v. Rucho*, ECF No. 34 at 4 (M.D.N.C. Dec. 19, 2016). The legislature may not remedy constitutional violations by enacted plans with new constitutional violations.

State Constitutional Flaws in the House Remedial Plan

Our initial analysis also reveals that several areas in the State House proposed remedial map additionally violate the North Carolina state constitution—both its plain language and as it has been interpreted by the North Carolina Supreme Court.

First, the configurations of House districts in Wake and Mecklenburg County violate the state constitutional prohibition on mid-decade redistricting. Article II, Sections 3 and 5 prohibits the legislature from redrawing districts, once enacted, until after the next decennial census. This prohibition controls unless a district has been invalidated by a court. House Districts 36, 37, 40 and 41 in Wake County were not declared unconstitutional, and do not touch a district that was ruled unconstitutional. The same is true for House District 105 in Mecklenburg County. These districts are modified in the proposed remedial House maps in those counties, but it is not necessary to alter those districts in order to correct the two districts in Wake County (33 and 38) and the three districts in Mecklenburg County (99, 102 and 107) that were declared

unconstitutional. Plaintiffs have demonstrated that with a remedial map introduced at the public hearing on August 22, 2017. Thus, the proposed Wake and Mecklenburg County House district configurations violate the state constitution and cannot be enacted or approved by the *Covington* court.

Second, Article II, Sections 3(3) and 5(3) state that “[n]o county shall be divided in the formation of a senate district” and “[n]o county shall be divided in the formation of a representative district,” respectively. These prohibitions are collectively referred to as state’s Whole County Provision [WCP]. At least two areas in the House map violate the North Carolina Supreme Court’s interpretation of the WCP.

In 2002, the North Carolina Supreme Court explained how the legislature should draw state legislative districts to comply with the WCP. *Stephenson v. Bartlett*, 355 N.C. 354, 383-84, 562 S.E.2d 377, 396-97 (N.C. 2002) (“*Stephenson I*”). First, the Court noted the “long-standing tradition of respecting county lines during the redistricting process in this State,” 355 N.C. at 366, 562 S.E.2d at 386. The Court went on to establish nine criteria for validly-constructed state legislative redistricting. Three of the criteria are particularly relevant here:

- When two or more non-VRA legislative districts may be created within a single county...single-member non-VRA districts shall be formed within said county. Such non-VRA districts shall be compact and shall not traverse the exterior geographic boundary of any such county.
- [...] Within any [] contiguous multi-county grouping, compact districts shall be formed, consistent with the at or within plus or minus five percent standard, whose boundary lines do not cross or traverse the “exterior” line of the multi-county grouping; provided, however, that the resulting interior county lines created by any such groupings may be crossed or traversed in the creation of districts within said multi-county grouping but only to the extent necessary to comply with the at or within plus or minus five percent “one-person, one-vote” standard.”
- The intent underlying the WCP must be enforced to the maximum extent possible; thus, only the smallest number of counties necessary to comply with the at or within plus or minus five percent “one-person, one-vote” standard shall be combined.

355 N.C. at 383-84, 562 S.E.2d at 397.

In 2007, the Supreme Court further explained these rules in application when examining how a state house district in Pender County was drawn. *Pender County v. Bartlett*, 361 N.C. 491, 649 S.E.2d 364 (N.C. 2007). There, at that time, Pender County did not have the population to warrant an entire state house district, and New Hanover County had the population to warrant more than two state house districts, but not three. 361 N.C. at 494, 649 S.E.2d at 366. The two counties grouped together were assigned three state house districts. *Id.* The legislature drew a house district between Pender and New Hanover counties that did not keep either county whole (House District 18). *Id.* Because there was not Voting Rights Act justification for this drawing of House District 18, the Court held that the state was required to perfectly comply with the WCP, and that configuration of the district did not do so because it did not keep Pender County whole. 361 N.C. at 507, 649 S.E.2d at 374. Instead, the Court said “a voting district that includes Pender County must add population across a county line, but only to the extent necessary to comply with the at or within plus or minus five percent ‘one-person, one-vote’ standard.” 361 N.C. at 509, 649 S.E.2d at 376 (internal quotations omitted).

In Cabarrus County, the house district configuration plainly violates the *Stephenson I* criteria. That county has the population to justify more than two non-VRA districts. As such, two whole districts must be drawn in the county, with only enough population in a neighboring county added to the remainder of the Cabarrus County population to bring it to within plus or minus five percent of the ideal district population. What the proposed map does instead is draw only one district, House District 82, in Cabarrus, and then two additional districts are drawn in the county, but neither is contained wholly within the county. Specifically, HD 83 traverses the county line to include a portion of Rowan County with Cabarrus County, when it is possible to draw both HD 82 and HD 83 entirely within Cabarrus County. Even though doing so does create a traverse elsewhere in the county grouping, the failure to draw two districts entirely within Cabarrus County, even though the overall number of county traverses is unchanged, violates the Supreme Court’s instructions from *Stephenson I* on maximum compliance with the WCP. Our version of this cluster keeps two counties wholly within Cabarrus County and does not increase the number of traverses when compared to your version of the cluster. As such, this portion of your proposed remedial House map is unconstitutional.

Likewise, the configuration of House District 10 also does not comply with the North Carolina Supreme Court’s instructions from *Stephenson I*. House District 10 is at one end of a seven-county cluster. Greene County, where that district is based in the proposed remedial plan, does not have enough population to support a House District on its own. Enough population could be added from the adjacent and larger county, Wayne County, to satisfy the equal population requirement with only one county traverse. That construction would be consistent with the state constitutional commands as defined by the North Carolina Supreme Court and as Dr. Hofeller, the state’s mapdrawer, explained in sworn testimony. *See Stephenson I*, 355 N.C. at 384, 562 S.E.2d at 397 (“only the smallest number of counties necessary to comply with the at or within plus or minus five percent “one-person, one-vote” standard shall be combined); *see also*, Hofeller Testimony, *Covington Trial Tr. Vol V*, at 10:18-23 (Apr. 15, 2016) (“Also, if you have, for instance, a two-county group, the smaller county with the smallest population should be

left intact, and the larger county should make up the share that the smaller county needs to bring it to the proper population.”). Instead of simply adding the population from Wayne County necessary to bring a Greene County-based district up to within plus or minus five percent of the ideal population, House District 10 traverses two counties—Wayne County and then stretches into Johnston County. This configuration is not permissible under the state constitution if it is possible to construct HD 10 comprised of only Greene and Wayne, which it is. Our version of the this county grouping has the same number of total county traverses, but constructs the Greene County-based district (House District 21 in our plan) as instructed by the North Carolina Supreme Court: adding population from a neighboring county to a county too small to warrant its own House district, but only adding as much as necessary from one neighboring county as necessary to achieve acceptable population in the district. Thus, this portion of your proposed remedial House map is also unconstitutional.

Plaintiffs’ Alternative Map

Plaintiffs have developed alternative maps for House and Senate that correct the unconstitutional racially gerrymandered districts identified by the three-judge court, do not constitute unconstitutional partisan gerrymanders, and fully comply with the North Carolina state constitution.

We can immediately provide the block assignment files for these plans to counsel and chairs of the redistricting committees, and any other individuals you to whom you request that we send the files.

If you have any questions about these proposed alternative plans, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

/s/ Anita S. Earls

Anita S. Earls

Allison J. Riggs

Emily S. Seawell

Southern Coalition for Social Justice

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Exhibit 2

	Legislative Redistricting Public Comments (2017)			
	Category	Date Submitted	Name	Comments
1	General Redistricting	Jul 26 2017 2:41PM	Dr. Mark Snyder	I strongly encourage the North Carolina General Assembly to adopt new maps that are fair and open, that avoid racial or partisan gerrymandering, and that allow voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around. I urge the N.C. General Assembly to support a redistricting process that follows those guiding principles
2		Jul 26 2017 2:54PM	Jennifer Kelley	I urge you to form an independent commission to lead North Carolina's redistricting.The members of an independent commission should be chosen by both democrats and republicans. This is the only way new district maps will ever be seen as fair and legitimate.
3		Jul 26 2017 2:58PM	Mr. Erik Olson	I can remember when redistricting was in the hands of the Democrats who used it to their advantage. Now the Republicans are using it for theirs. Leaving it in the hands of the people who will benefit from it as opposed to the voters who seem to get screwed by it seems undemocratic and unamerican. Can we please leave the redistricting up to an independent but mutually agreed upon process?
4		Jul 26 2017 3:10PM	Mr. Tim Peck	Republicans should identify any vulnerable districts and redraw maps to strengthen them for partisan advantage.
5		Jul 26 2017 3:22PM	Mr. Muhammad Hutasuhut	Let's re-district not on the basis of race, I beg of you. Let's remove any doubt of racial selectivity. Many thanks. Best regards, Muhammad Hutasuhut
6		Jul 26 2017 3:34PM	Mrs. Laura Marsh	The NCGA must stop creating racially gerrymandered, partisan districts in North Carolina. As a taxpayer, I support the immediate formation of a bipartisan commission to draw all future electoral districts in this state. Make this issue a priority. please.
7		Jul 26 2017 4:05PM	Mr. Sean McNeal	Redistricting is supposed to reflect changes in population and ensure that everyone is fairly represented. But politicians draw districts to give themselves or their party an unfair advantage. It doesn't matter "who did it first" or who will do it again. It needs to stop. The NCGA needs to put aside petty, childish bickering and institute true independent redistricting. End the sill practice of gerrymandering. There's no better time than the present.
8		Jul 26 2017 4:35PM	Mr. Wilson Crawford	North Carolinians have endured redistricting long enough. I favor district maps that are: 1) Fair and open and avoid racial or partisan gerrymandering 2) Allows voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around. Many candidates end up running unopposed under this oppressive system such as Senator Berger & Speaker Moore. Look where their partisan agenda has taken North Carolina. They remain in office because they run unopposed due to redistricting. I urge the N.C. General Assembly to support a redistricting process that follows the guiding principles I listed above. Thank you .
9		Jul 26 2017 4:40PM	Mrs. Mary Crews	We need nonpartisan redistricting. North Carolina deserves fair voting maps & fair elections!
10		Jul 26 2017 4:50PM	Ms. Judi Bastion	Please devise a non-partisan method that is fair to all voters.
11		Jul 26 2017 4:55PM	James Gore	I believe the districts should be drawn by an independent third party for the need of nonpartisanship.
12		Jul 26 2017 5:10PM	Ms. Jane Peppler	I'm very upset, VERY upset, that you are dragging your feet on this. I know it is a strategy, to slow down the redrawing to minimize any chance for fairness in time for the 2018 elections. I'm VERY upset that the same people are in charge of this redistricting as drew the racist gerrymandered districts struck down WAY BACK IN JUNE by the Supreme Court. North Carolina clearly needs a non-partisan independent redistricting committee. It's been proven that neither Republicans nor Democrats can be trusted to draw fair districts. Democracy requires that we trust the process. The process as it stands now is corrupt and rigged. Get some independent experts to do this work and do it fast. November is WAY TOO LATE. Do it NOW as the Supreme Court demanded.
13		Jul 26 2017 5:11PM	Mr. Geoffrey Wilson	Please do not gerrymander the state as was done in 2010. It results in wide-scale disenfranchisement and undermines our democracy profoundly. Please no more 'efficiency gaps' caused by concentrating Democratic voters in overwhelming majority districts
14		Jul 26 2017 5:11PM	Frances Lockwood	Districts must be drawn in a fair and balanced manner.
15		Jul 26 2017 5:16PM	Christopher Jaun	We want fair, nonpartisan districts! Competition is good for our state.

16		Jul 26 2017 5:21PM	Ms. Michelle Ricker	NC Citizens deserve fair, and equitable redistricting. If the only way 1 political side can win, is to illegally grab districts to advance their agenda, then we don't have a democracy!! We are better than this as a country. Please do the right thing, and represent and draw the redistricting lines so that they are fair, and balanced, and equal. Make every citizen's vote have equal weight. That is the great country we have always been. Thank you, Michelle Ricker
17		Jul 26 2017 5:24PM	Mrs. Kim Gramlisch	Nonpartisan redistricting is the only way to put power in the hands of the people. Make it nonpartisan now!
18		Jul 26 2017 5:44PM	Andrea Nenque	I would like a bipartisan group drawing the districts. I am so tired of not having equal representation. I don't care who did what to whom for the past 100 years. I want a fair system now, today. It is disgraceful that our state, with numbers more like 50-50 dem/GOP, is run by all GOP now. This has been a disaster for our schools, our environment and our health care system. I don't want it 100 percent dem either. Why can't we set a good example for once for our divided country that both sides can work together for the good of the people?
19		Jul 26 2017 5:52PM	Ms. Patricia Sheppard	If our legislators cannot be trusted to defend the constitutional rights of every NC citizen equally, without regard to their political registration, then they are unfit to hold public office. The millions of tax dollars spent legally defending the immoral and unethical power grabs of the ruling party could have improved our schools and roads, and many other things for our once proud state. I pray that you will actually read the Bible you so loudly thump, read the constitution that you falsely claim to defend, and have a crisis of conscience that requires you to finally do what is right and fair to every North Carolinian, and not just your rich donors and lobbyists.
20		Jul 26 2017 6:04PM	Allister Snyder	For love of state, country and our democracy, please find the wisdom and courage to redraw district lines, not on race or politics, but on what would be best for the good citizens of our great state of North Carolina.
21		Jul 26 2017 6:06PM	Mr. John Blair	Stop the gerrymandering.
22		Jul 26 2017 6:10PM	Mr. Perry McCorkle	I would ask that the NCGA follow these guidelines during the redistricting process to draw fair maps, that represent the factual racial makeup of NC state. That the redistricting process and deliberations be fair and open; avoids racial or partisan gerrymandering; and allows voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around. Thank you.
23		Jul 26 2017 6:12PM	Dr. Timothy Lindeman	Please make voting maps free from partisan politics.
24		Jul 26 2017 6:13PM	Ms. Margaret Silvers	I believe that voting districts should be drawn by a non-partisan, impartial committee in order to create a fair voting environment across the state.
25		Jul 26 2017 6:13PM	Mr. Joel Bartley	No partisan gerrymandering! Use computers to make sure neither party has wasted votes!
26		Jul 26 2017 6:14PM	Mr. Colin Johnson	Competitive elections are the way democracy is supposed to work. In order to ensure that elected officials represent the interests of the North Carolina public, district maps need to be drawn fairly by a non-partisan third party.
27		Jul 26 2017 6:16PM	Peri Alletto	Please allow a non partisan commission to write fair lines based upon actual demographics and non partisan looking to the future of our great state .
28		Jul 26 2017 6:16PM	Scott McMennamy	it's insane to me that we even have to ask for a fair and unbiased way to draw districts... lay a grid over the state... party should have no roll in drawing lines...
29		Jul 26 2017 6:16PM	Ms. Gayle Ruedi	One person, one vote. It's time the legislature "get with the program" of Democracy. Unfortunately, many in our legislature don't have a clue what Democracy is.
30		Jul 26 2017 6:16PM	Mr. Robert McCurdy	Voting maps should be drawn free from partisan politics.
31		Jul 26 2017 6:17PM	Dr. Jean Fromson	The state of NC needs an independent non-political commission to redraw districts without regard to party affiliation of constituents.
32		Jul 26 2017 6:17PM	Peggy McLeod	We deserve voting maps that are drawn free from partisan politics! Peggy McLeod Weaverville, NC
33		Jul 26 2017 6:18PM	Ron Gramlisch	Leave politics and race out of it. Be fair. Let the voters choose their Representatives.
34		Jul 26 2017 6:18PM	Mr. Mark Nippert	Do you believe in representative democracy? Then work for accurate representation.
35		Jul 26 2017 6:19PM	Mrs. Martha Spencer	Voting maps should be completely non-partisan! I support redrawing all districts to be free from partisan politics. Thank you.
36		Jul 26 2017 6:19PM	Ms. Rebecca Marks	It's time to fix this unfair voting districts and create districts that are not based on partisanship, that account for natural grouping (cities, etc.), that reflect the community. We need a non-partisan team to address this issue NOW.
37		Jul 26 2017 6:20PM	Mr. Larry Hannon	The citizens of NC have been unfairly represented for years. Please put an end to Gerrymandering and draw up fair and impartial districts.

38		Jul 26 2017 6:21PM	Don Andrews	Please bring an end to redistricting as a means to gain advantage over one party or another. It is wrong and undemocratic. I am no statistician but I do understand there are fair and non-partisan methods to create districts that represent any particular region. Creating fair and impartial districts is the only way to allow voters to be properly represented and to put and end to party partisanship. Frankly, I wish we did not have parties at all. Political parties have become the bane of our great nation.
39		Jul 26 2017 6:21PM	Ms. Marilyn Whitney	I want fair voting maps. No gerrymandering. Thank you
40		Jul 26 2017 6:21PM	Dr. Wendy Wieber	Please move forward with non-partisan redistricting. Each party abused the system when in power. Let's make sure our elected officials actually do represent us. If that were true now, both locally and nationally, I believe we would have a stronger country. Thank you for your consideration,
41		Jul 26 2017 6:22PM	Christine Arvidson	Wendy Wieber It is long past time to remedy our redistricting process. We all know this. Please do your jobs and fix redistricting. The arguments that one side did it so now you should, too, simply don't wash any more. Get it done!
42		Jul 26 2017 6:22PM	Gail Ferri	It is very important for the health of this state and nation that the citizens feel they have an equal opportunity to have their vote count as much as any other citizen. We are currently divided emotionally due to partisan rhetoric which has been enabled by voting districts that are no longer competitive nor contested. We do not want to be victims of either Republican or Democratic shenanigans, which have become intense due to computer accuracy in dividing neighborhoods and communities. We demand logical districts that adhere to basic community and or county shapes. We demand that these districts be drawn by non partisan methods and people.
43		Jul 26 2017 6:22PM	Mrs. Wanda Hanacek	I would I like voting maps drawn free from partisan politics.
44		Jul 26 2017 6:23PM	Mr. Lawrence East	I speak for myself as well as my fellow voters that we deserve fair elections in our state and the first step in that direction is to redraw the legislative districts in a fair and nonpar
45		Jul 26 2017 6:26PM	Mrs. Michaela Haugabook	We want fair voting maps!
46		Jul 26 2017 6:29PM	Sarah Larson	As a concerned citizen in NC, I think it is imperative that we end gerrymandering. This is a none partisan issue and we deserve fair voting maps and fair elections!
47		Jul 26 2017 6:29PM	Joe Gates	I am tired of Republican's and Democrats waging a political game to win a battle only to see the other win the next battle. Gerrymandering on any basis should never have ever been allowed. It's fundamentally wrong! How about doing something that benefits ALL North Carolinians
48		Jul 26 2017 6:29PM	Kathleen Wheelless	Everyone knows that each party is guilty of redrawing voting maps in their party's favor. PLEASE...do the right thing and change this crazy practice so that districts are drawn logically and remain logically drawn so that the people's wishes are carried out...NOT skewed according to the party in power's ability to mess with the democratic process. Bring logic and justice back to our elections!!
49		Jul 26 2017 6:29PM	Mrs. Nancie Ligon	It is time to stop the gerrymandering in North Carolina and allow the voters to elect officials regardless of race. Take race out of politics once and for all and let all votes be equal.
50		Jul 26 2017 6:30PM	Ms. Bernadette Beaupre	Please redraw logically districts, Why not use zip codes,so contiguous areas are only considered
51		Jul 26 2017 6:31PM	Ms. Betty Byron	Please ensure our voting rights as citizen of NC. Fair voting districts are the right thing for Americans.
52		Jul 26 2017 6:32PM	Ruby Todd	I believe that a NON-PARTISAN committee is required for redistricting because prior attempts have done nothing but be drawn for the advantage of the Republican Party! I distrust such a dishonest, and bias team choosing the correct districts, and not think that they should be given the responsibility to choose an HONEST redistricting areas
53		Jul 26 2017 6:33PM	Greg Ring	Non partisan maps must b drawn to ensure NC voters are represented fairly
54		Jul 26 2017 6:33PM	Dr. Charles Coble	Democracy in North Carolina is what we the people want - and if this is a threat to your longevity in the NC General Assembly, then find ways to serve the people, not just your donors and maybe we will re-elect you in snite of the districts heina drawn fairly!
55		Jul 26 2017 6:34PM	Ms. Jacqueline Abell	I expect that state lawmakers will draw voting maps that are free from partisan politics! As they begin the early stages in the process of redrawing unconstitutional legislative districts, North Carolina's House and Senate need to END PARTISAN GERRYMANDERING NOW!
56		Jul 26 2017 6:36PM	James Huggins	I support a process for drawing political district maps that is: - fair and open - avoids racial or partisan gerrymandering - allows voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around. Thank you

57		Jul 26 2017 6:37PM	Ms. Ellie Richard	<p>Fair and unbiased, no racial disenfranchisement, or silencing of the voices of The People through partisan lines. There are "elected" State senators and legislators who have not been legitimately elected-we know this.</p> <p>The People of North Carolina have lost faith in our elected legislators and the voting process. If you are not fair and unbiased as you draw the new maps you should brace yourselves for some serious blowback. And I do believe that you would like to get re-elected, yes?</p>
58		Jul 26 2017 6:38PM	Pat Clark	I am a new voter to NC, and would really like to see you draw voting district maps that are not partisan, and where the geography makes some sense. Why not have a non-partisan commission develop a district plan? You are wasting too much time fighting in the courts over this issue.
59		Jul 26 2017 6:42PM	Mr. John Southworth	The only patriotic thing is to enact HB200. Any other position is an act of treason and political cowardice.
60		Jul 26 2017 6:45PM	James Marsh	I want voting maps drawn free of partisan politics
61		Jul 26 2017 6:47PM	Ms. EVA RAND	Please put an end to gerrymandering. Redraw the district maps to make them fair.
62		Jul 26 2017 6:49PM	Ms. Barrie Conger	I think redistricting needs to be done in a completely non-partisan way.
63		Jul 26 2017 6:50PM	Dr. Wayne Lunsford	Please stop gerrymandering. We need voting maps that are drawn free from partisan politics.
64		Jul 26 2017 6:51PM	Mrs. Nancy Geimer	Please be fair with redistricting and eliminate the gerrymandering!
65		Jul 26 2017 6:51PM	Mr. James Seramba	Districts should be formed based on logic not political considerations
66		Jul 26 2017 6:52PM	Ms. Connie Nicholson	One person one vote must be the rule in NC. In order to achieve this fairly, districts need to be drawn in a non-partisan manner, it is appalling that half of the people in NC are not represented in government due to gerrymandered districts. I pay taxes, why does my vote not count?
67		Jul 26 2017 6:53PM	Ms. Mary Goodkind	A non-partisan redistricting commission is the only real solution to gerrymandering. Voters deserve to be represented and that requires fairly drawn voting districts. As a voter, I strongly urge you to set up a non-partisan redistricting commission to fix our broken democracy in North Carolina.
68		Jul 26 2017 6:54PM	Mrs. Lorraine Werts	Gerrymandering is wrong no matter what party is in control. Voter districts should be drawn in a fair and bipartisan manner and remain that way. North Carolina has 28 districts that were deemed unconstitutional by the Supreme Court as they were drawn on racial lines. Make this right. You people owe that to the constituents who live in this state. Do not sell out once again by allowing correct individuals to draw our maps. We will continue to fight if this insanity continues. People over party!
69		Jul 26 2017 6:55PM	Mr. Thomas Liebttag	<p>North Carolina's voting districts are grossly unfair due to both racial and partisan gerrymandering. Republicans and democrats have practiced gerrymandering to protect their power and to rig elections. Gerrymandering is CHEATING, plain and simple. It STEALS the power of the ballot from citizens, it empowers government to override our self determination, vastly reduces the number of competitive elections, intrudes on our liberty and ignores our right to choose who will represent us. Unfair districts allow some incumbents to ignore constituents who disagree with them, and destroys the legislative compromise upon which a vibrant democracy depends.. As a result, most of our votes simply do to matter, either because there is no way an opposition candidate could win, or because our votes simply add to an already overwhelming majority. This intolerable abuse of power violates the values of all Americans, and it is undermining our precious democracy.</p> <p>We need a process to establish voting districts that is independent of political parties, fair, and answerable to the citizens. There are several models available, but I suggest that either the process established in Iowa or California would be appropriate.</p> <p>An even better approach would be to use ranked choice voting with proportional representation as recommended by FairVote,</p>
70		Jul 26 2017 6:57PM	Emilee Hendrix	The redistricting for North Chatham county put us in a huge district, all for Republican gain! Give us back our smaller district and move the process to a non partisan body. Neither party should be involved in the setting up of statewide districts. EVER.
71		Jul 26 2017 6:58PM	Mr. Wiliam Satterwhite	Do the right thing. A non-partisan, even-handed redistricting that retains geographic boundaries as much as possible. There are plenty of examples available in the public arena. Don't screw this up. Everyone deserves a meaningful chance to vote.
72		Jul 26 2017 6:58PM	Ms. Carolyn Hackney	Citizens of North Carolina deserve honest representation, not based on partisan redistricting. Repugnant gerrymandering has destroyed our democracy. It's time for gerrymandering to end.
73		Jul 26 2017 7:00PM	Mr. Derrick Gordon	Partisan gerrymandering of political districts is dishonest, immoral, and totally disgusting. What ever happened to the basic American value of this democracy of one-man-one-vote.
74		Jul 26 2017 7:01PM	Ms. Julia Latham	I am so encouraged that this effort is taking place. Please do not abuse my trust in you. To have the greatest likelihood of ensuring a map that is not tainted by racial considerations, I strongly encourage the GA to form a bi-partisan, independent volunteer commission to draw our redistricting lines. In the alternative, if not permissible, a bipartisan committee of lawmakers would begin to improve our current situation. Our state will never get over its gridlock and offer meaningful elections until a drastic step away from partisanship is taken.
75		Jul 26 2017 7:02PM	Ms. Peggy Arcari	I support voting maps drawn free of partisan politics.
76		Jul 26 2017 7:03PM	Mrs. Sylvia Horvath	It's time to fairly represent the people of this state with nonpartisan redistricting.

77		Jul 26 2017 7:04PM	Ms. Hope McLean	I urge you to set up a process which ensures that voting districts are created on a non-partisan basis. Each vote should count equally and districts should not be set by political parties.
78		Jul 26 2017 7:05PM	Everett Baucom	Fairness in voting is the heart of democracy. Both parties have disregarded fairness in redistricting. It's time to correct this practice and get back on track to a truly representative democracy. Please implement a nonpartisan, fair redistricting system. Thanks you.
79		Jul 26 2017 7:07PM	Mrs. Mary Farmer	Ii want to put forth my request for the appointment of a non partisan commission to carry out the court order for redrawing the lines.
80		Jul 26 2017 7:14PM	Mr. James Grady	Enact Non-Partisan Redistricting.
81		Jul 26 2017 7:21PM	Dr. John Wrenn	It is time for North Carolina to have an independent redistricting commission to bring fairness back to the North Carolina voters. Our current system disenfranchised thousands of voters and prevents a truly representative government in our state. I want my vote to have a chance of counting for something
82		Jul 26 2017 7:21PM	Mrs. Audra Killingsworth	I support independent redistricting- completely taking politics out of the drawing of all lines. If you truly want the will of the people, then allow a computer to evenly split the districts to provide a true understanding of what "we the people " want when we vote.
83		Jul 26 2017 7:21PM	Mrs. Vicki Thompson	Legislative redistricting should be done by an independent body so neither republicans nor democrats have undue influence. Let the districts reflect population regardless of political affiliation, race, religion. etc. Make them honest representations!
84		Jul 26 2017 7:23PM	Mrs. Jane Maupin	I want a non-partisan group to redraw the voter districts. We do not need some outside group from Virginia coming in to redraw our voter districts. If non-partisan people can not be found then the districts should be drawn by an equally balanced, bi-partisan, North Carolina group. I believe that this delay is motivated by hopes to confuse voters and block local re-elections
85		Jul 26 2017 7:24PM	Ms. Frances Thompson	Please draw maps that are competitive and fair.
86		Jul 26 2017 7:29PM	Ms. Carter Worthy	Voters should choose their representatives, not the other way around. It's a total abuse of power and a corruption of honest democracy to draw the maps with "surgical precision" for optimum partison advantage. Everyone says the Democrats were just as bad as the Republicans are now. And it is true that the Democrats manipulated the districts for partison advantage, no doubt. But new technology and uber-partisanship by the Republican ruling class, has taken this process to an obscene level. We need independent redistricting. It's the ONLY way to bridge across the extreme polarization that partisan gerrymandering has wrought. Thank you.
87		Jul 26 2017 7:29PM	Ms. barbara bleiweis	Districts should be apportioned primarily on population (one person one vote) Districts should be single member,compact, convenient, contiguous and reflect communities of interest.Districts should provide for partisan fairness,preservation and protection of communities of interest,respect boundaries of municipalities and counties, Districts should explicitly REJECT: protection of incumbents and should NOT use addresses of incumbents or poltical affiliation of registered voters or other partisan data. Redistricting should be vested in an independent commissions with membership that reflects the diversity of the unit of government, including citizens at large, representatives of public interest groups, and members of minority groups.
88		Jul 26 2017 7:31PM	Mr. Edward Law	Redistricting should be free of politics and the districts should be redrawn to reflect a fair representation of the district. The people of North Carolina should be able to decide whom should represent them, not have the politicians make that decision. I am in District 11 and the word is that it is so slanted that no one has a chance to defeat Mark Meadows that is just not right
89		Jul 26 2017 7:32PM	Ms. Connie Lazenby	I demand fair and nonpartisan re districting. Fair, as in not racially or class motivated. The current legislation is an illegally elected body, as determined by the US Supreme Court!!
90		Jul 26 2017 7:32PM	Sarah Linn	I am an active voter. I want our maps drawn in a nonpartisan (and certainly not racist) fashion. We would all benefit by having legislators elected in competitive districts. It is not encouraging to see that the same consultant who helped with the last mans is involved again. At taxpayers expense
91		Jul 26 2017 7:34PM	Donna Drinnen	Nonpartisan redistricting is essential for effective governance that represents all constituents. The tides turn and this will be an issue for everyone eventually.
92		Jul 26 2017 7:35PM	Mr. Hervey McIver	North Carolina is a diverse state with a wide range of political attitudes. I encourage the redistricting process throughout the state and for both house and Senate to strive for a politically balanced population in the districts. EVERY DISTRICT SHOULD BE COMPETITIVE IN THE GENERAL ELECTION. not just the primaries.
93		Jul 26 2017 7:40PM	Lawrence Heyl	Please draw districts that are not skewed toward one party or the other.

94		Jul 26 2017 7:41PM	Kevin Baas	<p>I am the software developer behind the free and open-source software "Autoredistrict", and I offer my software AND my services free of charge.</p> <p>I can evaluate any proposed map for partisan fairness using any measure ever proposed, as well as how well it fits traditional redistricting criteria. I can also generate optimally fair districts based on any criteria using academically established optimization techniques. I can also use the same method to "tweak" any proposed plan. I am also happy to show anyone how to use Autoredistrict to do any and all of these things, for free.</p> <p>At your service,</p>
95		Jul 26 2017 7:41PM	Mr. William Garrard	<p>Please don't draw the lines on a partisan basis and give voters in every district a real chance to have an alternative. Please don't divide up out city as we need one congressional representative for our whole city so we can get them to focus on our needs.</p>
96		Jul 26 2017 7:47PM	Ms. Margaret Anderson	<p>For once try to draw the maps halfway fairly, to represent the people. Reel in this partisan madness.</p>
97		Jul 26 2017 7:47PM	Ms. Molly Mullin	<p>I fully support redrawing the voting districts along non-partisan lines. Districts that are compact and concurrent make common sense, not ones that are skewed to deny one party adequate representation. Please heed the advice of Judge Tom Ross’ panel and give NC voters a real choice for the next election.</p>
98		Jul 26 2017 7:47PM	Dr. James Umbanhowar	<p>Fair districts are fundamental to a functioning representative democracy. While there is a long tradition of gerrymandering, both for partisan and racially discriminatory reasons, I would hope that you can rise above this unfortunate history to craft districts that meet the original intent: compact, contiguous and representative of already existing communities. I beg you to do this as democracy in this state is failing due to the inability of the assembly to create legal and representative districts.</p>
99		Jul 26 2017 7:47PM	Gregory Kennington	<p>Please bring democracy back to North Carolina. Please use a non-partisan standard for drawing district maps such as the Gill v. Whitford "efficiency gap".</p>
100		Jul 26 2017 7:47PM	Ms. Vickie Atkinson	<p>Redistricting should be done fairly. This means that voters should choose their representatives instead of politicians choosing their voters. No gerrymandering should be done racially or based on political Party. Too much time and money have already been expended on the unfair maps that were drawn.</p>
101		Jul 26 2017 7:48PM	Ms. Linda Smathers	<p>An independent, non-partisan committee should be appointed to redraw the NC voting maps so we can have fair elections which we deserve.</p>
102		Jul 26 2017 7:54PM	Mrs. Judith Weigner	<p>Please get back to having fair redistricting so our voting can truly represent us.</p>
103		Jul 26 2017 7:54PM	Ms. Karen Kaser-Odor	<p>A free democratic state has nonpartisan voting districts. I urge you to draw district maps based on equalizing population representation not partisan politics.</p>
104		Jul 26 2017 7:58PM	Mr. Brendan Dillon	<p>When district lines are drawn in such a way that 50% of the voters have up to 75% of the representation, it violates the spirit and purpose of our republic. Political affiliation should have no bearing on the redistricting process.</p>
105		Jul 26 2017 7:59PM	Mrs. Devon Newton	<p>I would ask that fair districts be drawn by a non-partisan, third party. Or have Republicans and Democrats draw maps, and have a third party pick which one they think is the most fair. That way, each group will make an earnest effort at fairness. We need to get rid of gerrymandered districts. We currently live in an apartheid system, where the Republicans are disproportionately represented, when weighed against actual numbers of votes. It makes for radical policies and discourages bipartisanship.</p> <p>I find previous NCGA efforts shameful and disgraceful. NC Republicans have acted without integrity and honor. All I see is a bunch of racists, bigots, and xenophobes. You are definitely not acting like the Christians that most districts have.</p>
106		Jul 26 2017 7:59PM	Mrs. Cama C. Merritt	<p>Please find a way to give us nonpartisan redistricting. Please no more gerrymandering.</p>
107		Jul 26 2017 8:01PM	Mr. John Herron	<p>quit lying</p>
108		Jul 26 2017 8:04PM	Mrs. Hazel Poolos	<p>I want nonpartisan redistricting.</p>
109		Jul 26 2017 8:06PM	Ms. Melanie Mercer	<p>End partisan gerrymandering</p>
110		Jul 26 2017 8:06PM	Mr. Ryan Williams	<p>Please move to a system where an independent, non-partisan group of people draws our legislative districts.</p>
111		Jul 26 2017 8:09PM	Beth Jezek	<p>Use the Iowa model for redistricting.</p> <p>"Iowa's redistricting system is nonpartisan, an arrangement that protects the minority party. ... Instead of drawing lines that favor a single political party, the Iowa mapmakers abide by nonpartisan metrics that all sides agree are fair."</p>
112		Jul 26 2017 8:11PM	Ms. Betty L Shotton	<p>Today's computer aided, algorithmic gerrymandering has resulted in voting districts in North Carolina that pretty much insure republican representatives, even when democrats have a popular vote advantage. That is wrong. This dilutes the fair playing field that is a foundation of a free election system and underpins our democracy. Forget the past and who did what; that is childish conversation of blame. North Carolinians deserve a non-partisan board to address re-districting to ensure a fair and non partisan process.</p>
113		Jul 26 2017 8:11PM	Ms. Judith Miller	<p>No gerrymandering...districts should be drawn without regard to politics. Stop this nonsense and have fair elections.</p>

114		Jul 26 2017 8:12PM	Ms. Allegra Jordan	I want non-partisan voting districts. KEEP POLITICS OUT and most certainly race unlike last time. I read that the NC GOP is bringing back Tom Hofeller who gave us the last unconstitutional maps. I am horrified at the maps drawn by the NC GOP - as were Republican Federal judges. Shame on Tom and those who supported the travesty REPUBLICANS called the worst since reconstruction. I used to vote Republican as did my husband. the NC GOP's horror show sure changed that. NON-PARTISAN VOTING DISTRICTS.
115		Jul 26 2017 8:14PM	Susan Presson	we need fair voting districts. Please have an independent group make voting districts.
116		Jul 26 2017 8:14PM	Dr. Samuel Anderson	Please make sure that the new maps are constitutionally drawn and empower democratic debate and compromise in our state. Having maps free from partisan politics and gerrymandering is the most important issue facing North Carolina right now, and I'll be following the redistricting process closely. Thank you and good luck.
117		Jul 26 2017 8:17PM	Mr. Eric Marsh	The days of the majority party drawing voting districts needs to come to an end. The voters are better served by a process using independently drawn districts. They have been able to do that in Iowa. I cannot believe that we are less intelligent than the people of Iowa.
118		Jul 26 2017 8:19PM	Mr. John Hartwell	Please give us fair electoral districts, free from partisan politics. The current districts, some of which even split precincts, are difficult to understand, and expensive to administer. Worse, they are designed to render some votes ineffectual, in violation of the basic tenants of democratic government. Enough! Please do it right this time!
119		Jul 26 2017 8:20PM	Mr. Donald Williamson	We need fair redistricting without political bias. The current partisan districting in NC is unfair to our voters.
120		Jul 26 2017 8:20PM	Dr. Willard Cottrell	Can a republican win a fair election? A rhetorical question, it is. Thus far, these last six years have been bad for the state. That shows us, republicans who win fixed elections also are incapable of governing. But. you already knew that. hence illegal elections.
121		Jul 26 2017 8:22PM	Gina Kentopp	Gerrymandering is wrong and immoral. I want maps drawn that are free of partisan politics on both sides.
122		Jul 26 2017 8:22PM	Ms. Dona Koeberl	District should be contiguous, by entire city, county areas.
123		Jul 26 2017 8:22PM	Mrs. Evelyn Morehead	The citizens of our once admirable state deserve FAIR elections. Make gerrymandering a thing of the past.
124		Jul 26 2017 8:23PM	Ms. Kimberly Warren	I support a process for drawing our NC legislative maps by an independent, non-partisan commission. Districts are supposed to make sure that everyone is fairly represented, and that their vote counts. Having whichever party is predominant at the moment carve districts to serve their own advantage undercuts both fairness and our faith in the democratic process. Other states have successfully adopted a non-partisan approach. North Carolina can, too. Whether the gerrymandering is done out of racial or partisan bias, it should have no place in our districting process. Thank you for considering a non-partisan method for redistricting.
125		Jul 26 2017 8:23PM	Dr. Maria Salgado	Voting districts have to be geographical and non-political. We need maps that are drawn independent of partisan politics.
126		Jul 26 2017 8:23PM	Dr. Wendy Greene	Please draw districts such that each person's vote counts! If 60% of the folks vote for Republicans than roughly 60% of the representatives should be Republican. I know folks argue that each group in power draws the line to their advantage, but the fact that everyone does it, does not make it the right thing to do. We all learned this as teenagers! Please respect the voters and the vote. I fear that continued partisan districts will lead to a revolt and a breakdown of our government and consequently of our society.
127		Jul 26 2017 8:26PM	Mrs. Debbie Kimrey	I'm beginning to lose faith our political system all together. Stacking the deck is no win, it's cheating!
128		Jul 26 2017 8:31PM	Ms. Kathleen Riordan	As a Citizen of North Carolina I want voting districts to be drawn fairly without regards to favoring any political party. Thank you.
129		Jul 26 2017 8:31PM	Ms. Jo Ann Jellison	Please redistrict NC so that voting is fair. End the existence of manipulating voting districts for the benefit of any political party.
130		Jul 26 2017 8:32PM	Mrs. Helen Bell	It is time for full non-partisan districting/ redistricting in the state of NC. Both parties have abused the districting process, jerking voters around and manipulating our votes so they do as a particular party wants. Not only does this negate the public voice, but it also cuts deeply into the public's confidence in our government. We must have non-partisan districting now for the good of all in our state.
131		Jul 26 2017 8:36PM	Mrs. Joyce Harvey	Draw fair voting districts.
132		Jul 26 2017 8:37PM	Ms. Temple Halsey	No party is in power forever. A nonpartisan commission should be set up to divide the state into equitable divisions. A constitutional amendment should come before the legislature and the voters outlining such a commission to be formed after each 10 year census.
133		Jul 26 2017 8:38PM	Laura Ford	Please take this opportunity to give citizens districts free of partisan politics. Take the high road on this!
134		Jul 26 2017 8:38PM	Dr. Liz Bolton	Please create fair voting maps, ideally using computer/statistical algorithms rather than partisan politics.
135		Jul 26 2017 8:38PM	Ms. Karen Smith	I strongly believe US and State congressional districts should be drawn by an independent, non-partisan body to avoid either party being able to unfairly gerrymander districts to disadvantage voters of the opposing party. It's contributing to the extreme partisanship in our civil discourse and loss of the ability to COMPROMISE!!

136		Jul 26 2017 8:42PM	Dr. Frank Lorch	I want voting maps drawn free from partisan politics. The people should select their legislators, not the other way around!
137		Jul 26 2017 8:42PM	Dr. Karen Clark-Keys	My comment is regarding redistricting. I appeal to you to please utilize the most non-partisan, scientifically fair and balanced methodology to re-draw our states voting districts. The voting districts must be such that there is no favor or preference given to any party over another. This creates the framework for the exercise of our constitutional process of equal, safe, private and fair voting for all
138		Jul 26 2017 8:43PM	Mr. Tony Voiers	Dear General Assembly, As you start the process of drawing up new legislative districts, I urge you to do so in a way that is free from partisan politics. Back in August a group of former federal judges conducted an exercise to draw non-partisan districts for North Carolina's US House of Representative districts and gave us a template on how non-partisan redistricting can be done. Please follow this example and develop districts free of partisanship. Our country is more divided that at any point in our history and partisan districting plays a major role in the this divide. It is fundamentally undermining our democracy. Both the John Locke foundation and NAACP agree that districting should be non-partisan. If these two groups can agree on an issue, surely our General Assembly can agree on a way to develop non-partisan districts. Thank-you for you consideration. Tony Voiers
139		Jul 26 2017 8:43PM	Garry Vogelpohl	It is time to allow NC voters to truly select their choice for public office, rather than a cleverly narrowed decision made for them. Gerrymandering needs to end - for GOP and Dems alike! Let's act like we trust our democratic system and stop seeking power for either party. We, the People, are intended to have the final voice
140		Jul 26 2017 8:46PM	Mr. Gary Clontz	Please establish a nonpartisan group to establish fair and equal legislative districts.
141		Jul 26 2017 8:46PM	Mrs. Hattie Hair	We as citizens of NC deserve to have our distinct drawn fairly..so that we have fair representation in our congress and state..we demand fairness
142		Jul 26 2017 8:47PM	Janice Alexander	We need fair and legitimate elections. Redistricting must be corrected for fair elections. Lets get this done now!
143		Jul 26 2017 8:50PM	Dr. Gavin Dillard	Give us non-partisan, legitimate voting districts — NOW.
144		Jul 26 2017 8:50PM	Mrs. Robin Blackburn	I am absolutely fed up with the partisan politics that have been going on for years! Enough is enough! It is our constitutional right to have free, fair, and nonpartisan/gerrymander free primaries and elections! Redraw those maps and thus time make sure that they are nonpartisan and fair!!!
145		Jul 26 2017 8:52PM	Mr. William Hollar	Please undo the evil voodoo which Rucho, Lewis and Hofeller had cast as doo-doo upon our state. North Carolina's citizens deserve to have fair elections, unsullied by schemes. whether brazen or insidious. for partisan advantage.
146		Jul 26 2017 8:56PM	Dr. Heide Coppotelli	First, there's nothing complicated about what is the right thing to do for our democracy. Legislative districts should not be twisted and cobbled to keep some of the people of our State from having their votes count. That's not what our Constitution sought to lay down as the foundation of a Great America. It's shameful. Second, knowing what the right thing is to do, there's no legitimate excuse for not doing it. Political shenanigans for the sake of making some people more equal than others are unethical and immoral, which is why the Constitution would have it stopped. Third, Do it right. Do it now.
147		Jul 26 2017 8:57PM	Mrs. Elizabeth Voiers	I urge you to install non-partisan districting. It's undemocratic and wrong. It is politics at its worse and voters won't stand for it. Have some integrity and do what is right. If elected officials are doing a good job they shouldn't have to "cheat" to win their seats and shouldn't be threatened by non-partisan districts.
148		Jul 26 2017 8:57PM	Ms. Teresa Frohock	I want to give my wholehearted support for the creation of nonpartisan districts mapped by an independent committee. I am tired of the constant gerrymandering from both Democrats and Republicans. Without gerrymandering, people have faith not only in the election process, but also that our leaders represent all of us, regardless of political affiliation. Thank you for your time.
149		Jul 26 2017 8:58PM	David Forman	Though I am not a constituent, I am an American. North Carolina's districting process affects everyone who hopes to live in a democratic country. We, everywhere in the country, have a right to expect that the delegation you send to Washington, D.C. is roughly proportional to your voters beliefs and party affiliation. Otherwise, it warps the national debate. The same is true when we visit your state (or choose not to). We have a right to expect that your laws reflect the will of your people. As it is, I delay visiting my mother-in-law there, and get her to come visit NY instead. It hurts your economy. So, not only does government derive its just powers from the consent of the governed, fairness benefits everyone.
150		Jul 26 2017 9:00PM	Beverly Dugan	Please give NC a non -partisan redistricting process.

151		Jul 26 2017 9:03PM	Mr. Bob Grove	The shameful gerrymandering of districts to favor political candidates is not tolerable and must be addressed by the legislature. I will be watching the integrity of the
152		Jul 26 2017 9:08PM	Dr. Keith Allen	representatives to see whom to vote for in the next election. NC voters have been cheated out of fair representation in all recent elections. The gerrymandered legislature has repeatedly mis-drawn districts to favor themselves. These guys should be in prison, not in a legislative body. They are serial offenders, and pitiful excuses for democratic principles.
153		Jul 26 2017 9:10PM	Mr. Scott Olah	Fix it!
154		Jul 26 2017 9:10PM	Martha Shafer	An independent commission or special master is absolutely necessary to insure that redistributing is not done with partisan advantage in mind. Now is the time to do the right thing. The General Assembly should not be involved in redrawing the map.
155		Jul 26 2017 9:16PM	Mr. Alan Hensel	DRAIN THE SWAMP! Gerrymandering is an ugly form of corruption, favored only by the corrupt. We need districts drawn by non-partisan committee, with the aid of an open-source computer program, using only population density statistics, the previous map, and strict guidelines that include an efficiency gap calculation.
156		Jul 26 2017 9:16PM	Mrs. Diane Clark	Please make non-partisan, new voting districts in North Carolina which will allow for fair elections, and do this as soon as possible, before the next election. Unfair voting districts have already taken a toll on our democracy here in North Carolina, and this needs to be remedied immediately.
157		Jul 26 2017 9:21PM	Ms. jessica heriot	let's have fair voting districts that do not favor either party
158		Jul 26 2017 9:21PM	Anne Brown	Make it fair.
159		Jul 26 2017 9:22PM	Ms. April Tacey-Dickinson	End Gerrymandering NOW. We deserve fair lines drawn by non-partisan, objective people!!!
160		Jul 26 2017 9:23PM	Ms. Janet Flowers	Please redraw the maps to reflect the population and not the partisan bias that has been eroding our democracy in this state. As the maps are currently drawn, our elected officials do NOT reflect the majority of voters. That is immoral and undemocratic. Please make the fair and objective changes as quickly as possible so that our votes actually count and are reflected in the governance of North Carolina. Thank you.
161		Jul 26 2017 9:27PM	Mr. Tom Byers	Please end the cycle of partisan gerrymandering and give us a non-partisan re-districting commission along the lines of Iowa's. This change is badly needed to counteract the cynicism and apathy bred by our current system. Under the present system, North Carolinians observe that politics is being played like a game in which the winners change the rules to give themselves an unfair and undemocratic advantage for the next match-up.
162		Jul 26 2017 9:27PM	Bonnie Stevenson	Please bring fairness back to the way the redistricting is conducted. Allow the public to know what has been decided. Thank you. NC has been hurt by the redistributing the last 10 years-
163		Jul 26 2017 9:28PM	Margaret Brown	Please work with non-partisan organizations to design legislative districts that are fair and rational. Let's end gerrymandering so every vote counts.
164		Jul 26 2017 9:35PM	Ms. Jennifer Greenholt	Truly competitive districts should allow your ideas to win elections. If you don't believe in your ideas enough to let them stand for election, then ask yourself why you are in office. Any person of American ideals should be ashamed to hold elected office without the courage to get there on the strength of his or her convictions.
165		Jul 26 2017 9:38PM	Ms. Rachel Campbell	Gerrymandering should be outlawed. We should have fair and free elections, not based on either party. Politics have no place in our free elections. Otherwise we will be like other countries who do not have free and impartial elections.
166		Jul 26 2017 9:42PM	Mrs. Raines Kuppin	We need an impartial group to do our maps free of politics from either party.
167		Jul 26 2017 9:43PM	Ms. Dale Mendoza	I am writing to request that voting maps please be drawn free from partisan politics! It's time, and the people of NC deserve fair, representative districts. Thank you!!
168		Jul 26 2017 9:44PM	Mrs. Norma Warren	Make elections fair and redistrict apolitically. Dale Mendoza
169		Jul 26 2017 9:44PM	Ms. Kumi Smith	Please, please, redistrict in a fair way. I believe there are standards for fairness, which do not favor any political party. This is what North Carolina should be doing. I do understand the Democrats gerrymandered when they where in control. That was wrong ! Now the Republicans have done the same. It is still wrong ! Asheville was divided in two and we even lost an elected representative. This is outrageous. As I recall Iowa has had successful non-partisan redistricting for some 40 years. We should do the same, using whatever system seems most fair.
170		Jul 26 2017 9:46PM	Mr. Christopher Wells	After months of doing nothing, the NCGA is showing the citizens of NC that they have learned nothing. Using the same people who drew our last unconstitutional set of maps solves absolutely nothing.
171		Jul 26 2017 9:49PM	Mr. Barry Summers	Many groups have articulated how to draw FAIR, NONPARTISAN maps. There are many tenable, transparent, and scientifically sound ways to do this. If Ohio and California can do it, so too can we. Ground rules for fair redistricting will prevent a hypothetical future Democratic majority from unfair gains as well. This is in everyone's interest.
172		Jul 26 2017 9:53PM	Mr. David Alan Cook	I would like to see North Carolina use a nonpartisan committee for redistricting based on the Iowa model.
				Please adopt a non-partisan committee redistricting model. It's the only way to take the divisive politics out of this important issue.
				Stop Republican Corruption in Politics!

173		Jul 26 2017 9:54PM	Julie Arader	Redistricting for your benefit is cheating and is what got us into this mess with the worst president we've ever had and why we have so much unrest since 12/9/16
174		Jul 26 2017 9:57PM	Dr. Heather Simon	I am a concerned NC citizen and I am commenting today to ask that the legislative redistricting process be carried out in a nonpartisan manner, ideally by an independent commission and with the opportunity for the public to comment on the final district map. For me, the issue of nonpartisan redistricting is fundamentally about preserving our democracy. Both Democrats and Republicans won statewide races in the last election, indicating that the voters in North Carolina are fairly evenly split. In contrast, whenever elections were based on districts, the scale leaned very heavily towards Republicans: 10 vs 3 for NC representatives in the U.S. house and veto-proof majorities in both the state house and the state senate. Any process that is designed to favor some voices or opinions over others is fundamentally undemocratic and goes against the spirit of the NC and US constitutions. Section 2 of article I of the state constitution states "All political power is vested in and derived from the people; all government of right originates from the people, is founded upon their will only, and is instituted solely for the good of the whole." The current districts do not represent a government originating from the will of the people and I urge the legislature to design truly fair and representative districts when the draw new maps. Attempts at gerrymandering for the purpose of gaining a political advantage are short sighted in that they are undermining our core democratic principles for temporary political advantage. The issues faced by this state will change. The demographics of this state will change. However, once lost, democracy is very hard to regain.
175		Jul 26 2017 9:59PM	Dr. Douglas Wingeier	I write to urge you to draw new voting maps which are totally free from partisan politics.
176		Jul 26 2017 10:03PM	Carolyn Felton	I strongly encourage you to support a change to nonpartisan redistricting for our state. Both parties spend too much time focused upon partisan districts instead of doing the jobs you were all elected to do. Every member of our legislature needs to be a good statesperson and stop this partisan nonsense.
177		Jul 26 2017 10:05PM	Mrs. Barbara Nettesheim	State and congressional districts should be determined by a nonpartisan process, free from political influence. The districts should not be drawn to favor a political party. The responsibility for drawing districts should be given to a group that will be fair to voters and keep communities together. It should not be done by elected officials.
178		Jul 26 2017 10:06PM	Julia Myers	Please create a non-partisan commission to draw voting maps that are free from partisan politics.
179		Jul 26 2017 10:12PM	Kay Richey	Have districts align with county lines as much as possible and when county must be divided follow precinct lines
180		Jul 26 2017 10:19PM	Melanie Nikdel	We need fair maps, without bias towards race or political party. Gerrymandering leads to political extremism and unequal representation, which has created untenable politics on both the state and national level. Historically, both Democrats and Republicans have drawn district maps in their own favor. ****The only way to ensure fair districts is to have them drawn by a completely nonpartisan group**** Thank you,
181		Jul 26 2017 10:21PM	Anne Fondren	Districts need to be redrawn with a bipartisan approach and not based on race. The districts should be compact without long tentacle like lines
182		Jul 26 2017 10:23PM	Mrs. Madelyn Quattrone	Redistricting must be fair and free of political influence. So many American men and women have died to protect the right of Americans to vote. Don't dishonor them by tainting voting rights with partisanship. Our patriotic martyrs did not die for any particular political party, or to deprive other Americans from having a fair vote because of their race or economic status. Don't kill democracy. It's a precious commodity.
183		Jul 26 2017 10:26PM	Mrs. Janet Rodie	Redistricting efforts must be nonpartisan. Districts must not be gerrymandered to provide an advantage to one party or the other. The gerrymandering is manipulative and takes power from the citizens.
184		Jul 26 2017 10:28PM	Ms. Chris Chato	It is absolutely essential to democracy that the process used to draw the maps for our legislative districts be unbiased and free from politics. Other states have come up with fair redistricting processes that work. Let's take out cue from them! Thank you
185		Jul 26 2017 10:31PM	Ms. Alice Wieting	We need fairly drawn districts.

186		Jul 26 2017 10:32PM	Mrs. Tami Oden	An independent group should redraw district maps in NC, not a republican controlled legislature which was elected using unconstitutional maps. This should be done immediately. The consultant which the republican controlled legislature has chosen to use is biased, and should not be used. Why don't the maps simply follow zip code, or perhaps school district boundaries? As a full time stay at home mom for the last 20 years, it seems to me that those living in the same zip code, or perhaps base school area (in wake county for example) have similar local and state issues that they are dealing with and would like represented in congress. It is ridiculous for you to draw lines that attempt to minimize the impact of certain voters (for example carving out universities and lumping them together in one district rather than 2 separate disticits, as appears to have been done with UNC and NCSU where 2 of my children go to college). Apparently you want to dilute the young voters of our state and the impact they could have on elections. As the courts have ruled, you've done the same with people based on race: put as many African Americans as possible in as few districts as possible in order to dilute their impact when voting in elections. What are you afraid of? Losing your southern white control? Well I'm here to tell you that my kids, born in NY, are the new North Carolina natives, and things are changing in our state. It's time you became more aware of that, and people like me who moved here and raised our families here and contribute to your growing technology based economy are smarter than you think. This is not the old south anymore. We won't stand for the racial bias games you republicans have played for generations - ever since Lyndon B Johnson made the right civil rights choices that caused southern democrats to leave and join the current Republican Party. As one of many NC residents who call this state our home, I am asking you to be rational and impartial and allow an independent commission to redraw the redistributing maps. If not, you all will eventually follow McPeople
187		Jul 26 2017 10:41PM	Kim Preish	Voters have the right to vote for their legislators not the other way around. The only way to do that is by fair nonpartisan redistricting.
188		Jul 26 2017 10:41PM	Mrs. Yvonne Moody	The only option that's fair to all voters is a bipartisan redistricting committee.
189		Jul 26 2017 10:44PM	Kathy Parham	We need fair districts that use independent mapmakers that use criteria such as compactness not partisan and racial gerrymandering.
190		Jul 26 2017 10:53PM	Ms. Diane Thomson	I am against partisan redistricting regardless of party. It is not fair. If you can't win without gerrymandering partisanship you need to rethink who vou are.
191		Jul 26 2017 10:56PM	Mrs. Melissa Carroll	Just a quick look at election district maps show how unfairly they are drawn. North Carolina needs to have fair districts that are drawn to be fair to our voters and uphold our state constitution. Gerrymandering is illegal and immoral. North Carolina needs to stop being an embarrassment and begin to stand for the values of fairness our country was founded on.
192		Jul 26 2017 10:57PM	Larry Hicks	Please push for non-partisan districting by an independent citizen group. Neither party should be in control of this. Citizens should select their representative, not the other way around. Tanks you!
193		Jul 26 2017 10:59PM	Mr. Gregory Elkins	Legislative districts should be drawn by a non-partisan panel. We should be able to pick our representatives rather than the other way around. Restore democracy! Fair maps now!
194		Jul 26 2017 11:05PM	Vonna Viglione	As an undergraduate at UNC-G, it was my delight to study American history in depth with world class scholars. I am so dismayed that the Republic our founders created is being abused for purely partisan purposes. The power of ideas should decide elections, not the surgical precision of drawing partisan maps. It is past time to return to first principles, put country above party and make redistricting fair, objective and non-partisan. Setting aside partisan fractures, clear lines strengthen administrative abilities of local governments, those governments CLOSEST to "the people". I miss the days when North Carolina was considered a leader in "good government". Creating strong, non-partisan districts would signal that North Carolina, the first state to publicly fund education, the home of the FIRST "tea party" and home today to all branches of the armed services, THAT North Carolina, is ready once again to lead. History will see any machinations to continue partisan manipulations as the betrayal of our country's entire reason for being. We are supposed to lead the world as a beacon and an exemplar. Drawing districts that look like "scribbles", rather than compact governmental districts, is insulting to voters and hampers, rather than helps, governance.
195		Jul 26 2017 11:05PM	Andrew Stern	It has been over 6 years since this new round of redistricting has started and NC still has unconstitutional Congressional, NC House and NC Senate districts. As our "esteemed" President would tweet, SAD!! The time is now for an independent redistricting commission to redraw districts for our unconstitutional districts, using HB200/SB209 as a model. Both parties have supported an independent commission at some point (when they were not in control of the process)--if it was the right thing to do when not in control (which it is), then it is the right thing to do even when in control. Please do the correct thing, as how can the public have confidence in laws being passed by representatives that won in unconstitutional districts? Is it any wonder that the public has such low confidence in our political institutions?!?
196		Jul 26 2017 11:05PM	Mrs. marcia ramirez	It doesn't matter is it's Republicans or Democrats, taking unfair advantage of an opponent by Gerrymandering is wrong. To hamper peoples right to vote is not only illegal it is morally wrong. It's time to reach a fair and iust Redistricting.

197		Jul 26 2017 11:06PM	Ms. Rita Large	Legislative redistricting needs to be done fairly in order for the elections to be done fairly!!!
198		Jul 26 2017 11:09PM	Ms. Mary Combs	The maps must be redrawn immediately.
199		Jul 26 2017 11:19PM	Mrs. Brenda McCall	Legislative districts need to reflect voter preference for a cohesive geographic area. They should be established and maintained by a non-partisan panel or committee.
200		Jul 26 2017 11:28PM	Dr. Joseph Tanzini	We need maps drawn by non-partisan means so that all people's votes are honored and not suppressed. Currently we are not being represented by our legislators and this is a failure for our democracy.
201		Jul 26 2017 11:34PM	Dr. Jacqueline Dzau	Dear Members of the Redistricting Committee, I ask that you place people over party and allow for an independent commission to redraw the NC new district maps. Clearly bipartisanship no longer exists in this state, therefore a "bipartisan" redistricting committee is only that in name, especially when outside counsel such as Tom Hofeller, the mastermind behind the 2011 unconstitutionally gerrymandered NC districts, is asked by the Committte chair to assist in the redistricting efforts. We must put an end to this once and for all. Take the responsibility of drawing district maps out of the hands of conflicted politicians. Sincerely, Jacqueline Dzau
202		Jul 26 2017 11:42PM	Ms. Brenda Willis	We want fair redistricting. No gerrymandering. We elected Governor Cooper. Cooperate with him or we will see that you are voted out. Stop trying to hijack our state government and ram things down our throats.
203		Jul 26 2017 11:56PM	Mr. Craig Hobaugh	Use county and large city boundaries where ever possible. With 100 counties it should not be that hard to find equality. They are permanent and will make it difficult to manipulate by either political party!
204		Jul 27 2017 12:00AM	Mr. Gary Kenton	The only way to prove that you believe in democracy is to advocate for a non-partisan redistricting process.
205		Jul 27 2017 12:31AM	Mr. Larry Smith-Black	Surely district maps can be drawn which gives neither party advantage over the other(s). A map that forces candidates to run for office on their merits as judged by the respective constituencies. Furthermore gerrymandered maps such as what we currently have encourages our perennial (safe seated) elected officials to become complacent in their roles as legislators so that little (if anything) gets done of intrinsic value for our communities and their residents. What they do accomplish is most often self-serving.
206		Jul 27 2017 12:34AM	Mr. Jerry Lambert	There should be an independent commission established to draw up non-political Legislative Districts thru out North Carolina! Now and is in the past the party who was in power drew up the districts to favor their party at election time. That needs to stop now! By The Way (BTW) I am a registered independent (unaffiliated) voter!
207		Jul 27 2017 12:53AM	Mr. Richard Laskey	Please eliminate gerrymandering and make redistricting a non-partisan issue that does NOT discriminate against minority voters.
208		Jul 27 2017 2:50AM	carol michaelis	Fairness always works in the long run. Let's correct this very UNFAIR system.
209		Jul 27 2017 3:27AM	Ayla Fickenc	I support bipartisan method for drawing new district maps. There should be no political influence on how the new maps are drawn. Thank you for helping us return to democracy.
210		Jul 27 2017 3:49AM	Dr. Sharon LeDuc	As a Ph.D. statistician, I know that there are methods that can provide redistricting that provide fairer representation. Right now I don't know why I bother to vote for a representative. The district is so unbalanced that voting is a joke. We should do better. Thanks for listening.
211		Jul 27 2017 6:16AM	Ms. Cornelia Cornils	We, the people of NC, demand a fair, one-person, one-vote districting. Voters should be able to choose their candidate, not the other way around!
212		Jul 27 2017 6:20AM	Dr. Jayne Owen Parker	Please keep our democracy safe by drawing voting maps that are nonpartisan. It is the only way to protect America and our party from being kidnapped by extremists. Loading districts in the favor of one party or the other weakens the party the district favors by lowering the competence and quality of the candidates. I want to see strong competition between strong candidates, not shoo-ins for rascals.
213		Jul 27 2017 6:26AM	Ms. Stefanie Mendell	A key foundation of our country is representative democracy. We need fair and balanced, nonpartisan voting maps to ensure that voters pick the candidates and not the other way around. We have the technology now to do this in an impartial and fair way. Let's do what's right for our state and our country.
214		Jul 27 2017 6:42AM	Betsy Williams	Please draw districts with no split counties unless the population numbers dictate a need, no regard to race, and no use of voter registration or voting history of the people living in each county. Base it, as much as is possible, on population numbers. Make the districts as connected as possible.
215		Jul 27 2017 6:45AM	Mr. John Maron	I strongly believe that a truly independent commission should be created that is composed of commissioners in proportionate numbers based on the state's total registered voter population. This will force the state's political parties to compete for voters based on the issues rather than gerrymandered districts

216		Jul 27 2017 6:52AM	Donna Fender	I want fair, nonpartisan redistricting so members of the legislature accurately reflect the will of the people. I'm tired of our state government being hijacked by a small minority of pompous old white men. It's time to give the government back to the people.
217		Jul 27 2017 7:04AM	Ms. Elizabeth Krijgsman	It should be obvious that legislative districts should be drawn up fairly, in every sense of the word, not designed to favor any group or party. If you can only win by cheating, it isn't winning. We need a nonpartisan group to draw up new legislative districts properly, without regard to any consideration except fairness.
218		Jul 27 2017 7:10AM	Ms. Jeanette Clarkson	Stop messing with the redistricting line for the good of the GOP. Its not right and its not fair. STOP IT!
219		Jul 27 2017 7:10AM	Michael Brown	We need bi partisan re districting: our democracy works better for everyone when you are accountable to everyone.
220		Jul 27 2017 7:14AM	Mr. Daniel Amerson	The level of gerrymandering in our state is atrocious and reflects the flawed idea that legislators should be allowed to draw the maps defining their districts and hence picking the demographics of their own voters. It's time for our state to institute an independent, non-partisan redistricting process that seeks to balance districts compactly and using objective criteria like the Efficiency Gap or other to restore equality to the votes of all North Carolinians.
221		Jul 27 2017 7:18AM	Dr. Cheryl Stallings	I am writing to ask that all voting maps in North Carolina be drawn free from partisan politics. I believe this would lead to much more fairer elections, and more accurate representation in the NCGA of the people in our state.
222		Jul 27 2017 7:20AM	Ms. Susan Powell	Keep our elections fair and open to all voters to ensure our democracy works for all people. Avoid the racial or partisan gerrymandering that only supports the GOP political agenda. Allow voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around
223		Jul 27 2017 7:22AM	Ms. Laura Washburn	The citizens of NC deserve and demand redistricting maps which are neither racially not politically gerrymandered. Respect our democracy and redraw the districts so that the results of our elections accurately reflect the political preferences of our citizens, not the political preferences of current legislators
224		Jul 27 2017 7:37AM	Ms. Jean Larson	The legislative district lines must be drawn in a non-partisan manner by an independent committee. This is the only way that each citizen will have a voice and democracy will be maintained. Thank you for working toward this end. Jean Larson Madison County
225		Jul 27 2017 7:41AM	Ms. Bonnie McCarthy	Having fairly drawn districts is the only way for the citizens of North Carolina to have confidence in their legislators. Governing by the currently drawn map is a unfair and not representative of constituents. We must demand nonpartisan redrawing of the districts.
226		Jul 27 2017 7:46AM	Ms. Tish Wilson	Fairness and integrity and representation of All people in our state should be the foundation of drawing district lines. If you do not have the integrity to be fair, you should not be involved in this process! I am sick and tired of you people placing party above the good of the people of our state and country
227		Jul 27 2017 7:49AM	Ms. Elaine Manning	Quit messing around with this. The citizens want independent voting maps with no partisan politics involved!
228		Jul 27 2017 7:51AM	Don Millsaps	New maps fair to both parties -- end this extremism!
229		Jul 27 2017 7:53AM	Mrs. Sabine Schoenbach	We need voting maps drawn free from partisan politics.
230		Jul 27 2017 7:54AM	Dr. Josh Dettman	Hi- I follow emails from Common Cause to stay updated on redistricting efforts across the country. Not having politicians draw maps used to elect them is a common sense measure that should be implemented nation-wide. Fairness and following lawful/moral principles is something our country is based on. Make the Founder Fathers proud Best, Josh
231		Jul 27 2017 7:59AM	Ms. Franca Gilbert	I would like voting maps redrawn that are free from partisan politics ! North Carolinians want fair elections and fair voting districts !
232		Jul 27 2017 8:01AM	Mr. John Blair	Stop the Gerrymandering and create fair and sensible districts.
233		Jul 27 2017 8:09AM	Eric Greene	Draw new maps that are free of racial and/or partisan gerrymandering now. This is your last chance to do the right thing...otherwise, the citizens will demand that the responsibility be taken away from you and put in the hands of an independent, non-partisan commission.
234		Jul 27 2017 8:12AM	Mrs. Susan Olivari	This should be a bipartisan redistricting. Get some outside help not associated with the GOP!!!!
235		Jul 27 2017 8:16AM	Mr. Steve Gilbert	Looking forward to seeing the results of the very important democratic procedure of redrawing district maps. Please do it fairly and without partisan politics. Thanks!
236		Jul 27 2017 8:18AM	Cynthia Campo	As a voter in this state and country, I want to know my vote counts legally & fairly without unfair redistricting maps. No more gerrymandering. It not what the writers of the Constitution meant. LET ALL PEOPLE VOTES COUNT FAIRLY.
237		Jul 27 2017 8:19AM	Mrs. Sarah Swingle	Fair voting maps and fair elections are vital for democracy to work. North Carolina needs voting maps that are drawn free of partisan politics. Thank you.

238		Jul 27 2017 8:23AM	Mrs. Ariana Nester	I implore the NCGA to utilize an independent commission to perform redistricting in the state. For too many years both parties have used gerrymandering to help guarantee their ability to win elections. Whether a democractic representative is able to win an election should be directly related to their ability to speak to and hear the people they represent, not their ability to draw a map. Anything short of independent redistricting minimizes the voice of the people and weakens our democracy.
239		Jul 27 2017 8:23AM	Valetia Gladding	It is time for you to really make all of America Great. Represent all of the people not just the Republican party. Do something good for a change.
240		Jul 27 2017 8:23AM	Betty Gunz	No more illegal maps. Protect democracy. We deserve fair redistricting maps. No more stuff like you've done in the past. Do your job. Draw up fair redistricting maps.
241		Jul 27 2017 8:23AM	Barbara Colson	Please please please redraw the new legislative maps in a non partisan way. You have already passed districts that were unconstitutional. Please, for the sake of the state and the country, we need non partisan districts. You work for us. the people.
242		Jul 27 2017 8:23AM	Dr. Jane Hawk	Take ALL of the politics out of redistricting----- please. NO more gerrymandering ever!!!
243		Jul 27 2017 8:32AM	Ms. Genevieve Fleischman	It is time for fair non political redistricting. As a citizen of NC I want fair districting.
244		Jul 27 2017 8:32AM	Mrs. Elizabeth Reshower	Please draw maps without discriminating between Democrat and Republican, black and white. America is all of its people. If you cannot represent the real America, you need to go home and stop meddlinq in our processes.
245		Jul 27 2017 8:33AM	David Hyland	Do what is fair for every citizen in NC that won't be constantly changed to benefit the party in power. Have the maps drawn by a nonpartisan panel! Thank you.
246		Jul 27 2017 8:45AM	Mrs. Angela Levine	Districts should be drawn in a fair and bipartisan way so that no one party benefits. We need to appoint a bipartisan committee to oversee redistricting in our state and end gerrymandering once and for all. Many states have successfully done this and made gerrymandering a non-issue regardless of which party had majority power in the state. It is time for NC to pursue this path.
247		Jul 27 2017 8:48AM	Mr. Eric Morrow	I would love to see non-partisan redistricting in NC. Good politics starts from fair voting, regardless of political leaning. Why destroy a good thing when the solution is so simple?
248		Jul 27 2017 8:51AM	Mr. Tom Karches	Fair redistricting creates a stronger democracy. No more gerrymandering. No more rigged elections.
249		Jul 27 2017 8:54AM	Mr. Habib El-Khoury	We need fair voting districts to be redrawn free from partisan politics !
250		Jul 27 2017 8:56AM	Mrs. Sharon Welch	Why do we have the SAME guy doing the maps? The voters want a nonpartisan redistricting group. You are costing the taxpayers by all of these lawsuits because you absolutely refuse to do what is right. The taxpayers are going to vote you all out as soon as possible.
251		Jul 27 2017 8:56AM	Mr. Kelly Gloger	<p>Dear Members of the Legislature,</p> <p>Gerrymandering is unique to America in that we are the only democracy on the planet that allows its elected officials to pick their voters; all other democracies use some form of independent non-partisan commission to draw voting districts. Now powerful low-cost mapping software combined with an ocean of available data on a voter’s purchasing history, movie preferences, social media use, voting history, etc. make it possible to draw voting districts with such surgical precision as to virtually guarantee that future election outcomes, for the following decade, will favor the political party that drew them. Democracy is about a fundamental freedom of citizens to have their voices equally and fairly represented in the government they elect. In North Carolina where the approximate breakdown of voters is 1/3 Republican, 1/3 Democrat, and 1/3 independents, the question before North Carolina voters is this, “Does the practice of gerrymandering strip from 2/3’s of North Carolina’s voters their freedom of equal and fair representation in their government when a political party, representing only 1/3 of the state’s voters, is given the power to draw voting districts to unfairly advantage its candidates over those of other political parties? I think any fair minded person will answer that question in the affirmative and therefore I am asking the legislature, when redrawing the voting districts of our state, to use the following criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disregard the political affiliation of voters 2. Disregard the location of any sitting member of the legislature 3. Strive for a compact shape of the district’s boundaries 4. Respect the natural economic affiliation of communities, i.e. rural western NC counties have little economic affiliation with communities like Charlotte. 5. Try to have a district's boundaries not cut across county lines.
252		Jul 27 2017 8:58AM	Mr. James Kinneman	Non-Partisan Redistricting will save money, eliminate lawsuits, and help make elections fairer in direct support of one citizen one vote. Gerrymandered districts rob voters of all parties of having their vote matter. Please don't use "but the democrats did it too" as an excuse for not doing the right thing.
253		Jul 27 2017 9:02AM	Ms. Mary Lucas	Voting districts that honor the principle of one person one vote are essential to a functioning democracy. Districts that are contiguous, that keep counties and precincts whole as much as possible, and that are drawn by non-partisan delegates (on a practical basis that means both major parties as well as other minority stakeholders included) is desperately needed in this state and across the nation. Please follow the intention and the letter of the law as directed by the Supreme Court.

254		Jul 27 2017 9:09AM	Dr. Leslie Talbott	I am in favor of the Iowa model where districts are drawn in a nonpartisan manner. I want districts that are compact, drawn without regard to results from the previous election, and in agreement with federal law.
255		Jul 27 2017 9:11AM	Mr. Jeffrey Egerton	Please give the power of the vote back to the people of North Carolina. Non-partisan redistricting will allow the people of North Carolina to actually choose fair representation.
256		Jul 27 2017 9:11AM	Mr. Matthew Clements	Please set up a non-partisan Iowa style redistricting plan in order to end the bi-partisan Gerrymandering and endless lawsuits. Legislators should not be selecting their voters - it should work the other way around.
257		Jul 27 2017 9:12AM	Mr. Todd Buker	No political party should have influence over districting maps. I strongly urge lawmakers to adopt an independent system of districting, such as this redistricting algorithm: https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2014/06/03/this-computer-programmer-solved-gerrymandering-in-his-spare-time/?utm_term=.3b7d0043fbbb . A mathematical, non-partisan approach is really the only way to take human interference and gerrymandering out of our electoral process. This will help ensure that politicians have to win voters over with their ideas and track records, not just rely on districts drawn favorably. Thank You.
258		Jul 27 2017 9:18AM	Ms. Anne Parlier	It is important to me.and my family that district maps be fair and make it possible for all votes to count equally. This should be done by an independent commission so that both parties.and ALL constituents of ALL races have equal opportunity for their votes to count.
259		Jul 27 2017 9:21AM	Katherine McGovern	Redistricting should be non partisan, and follow something like the Iowa criteria - districts of equal population compact, contiguous, and observing county and municipal boundaries where possible. This shouldn't be hard! To continue allowing maps to be drawn to favor one party disenfranchises citizens of our state of their votes, a gross misdeed for any democracy.
260		Jul 27 2017 9:22AM	Mrs. Jennifer Alexander	Please make the redistricting process fair and representative of us citizens. Partisanship has no place in this process.
261		Jul 27 2017 9:22AM	Mrs. Gary Alexander	Please make the redistricting process fair and representative of us citizens. Partisanship has no place in this process.
262		Jul 27 2017 9:22AM	Mrs. Nancy Marks	It is past time for my legislators to remember that they work for all the citizens of North Carolina. Acting like the juvenile bully with the biggest stick in the sand box is simply not acceptable. "A rising tide lifts all boats" has been our salvation for generations. Honesty is, and always has been the best policy. Please, rediscover your inner best nature!!!
263		Jul 27 2017 9:23AM	Mr. Cody Hulme	Voting maps need to be drawn free from partisan politics.
264		Jul 27 2017 9:25AM	Mrs. Michele Wilson	I would like the state to redraw the lines of the districts so we have a fair chance of voting for all the candidates. I would like to feel like I have a voice in this state, and am not just "mapped" to the candidate most likely to win for my party. Thank you for making this right
265		Jul 27 2017 9:27AM	Dr. Sonia Archer-Capuzzo	Redistricting needs to be done by a non-partisan committee. Neither party should have control over how our votes are counted in North Carolina. Please put your constituents first and get behind a non-partisan, independent redistricting committee. Our state will be stronger for it.
266		Jul 27 2017 9:28AM	Mrs. Allison Binder	When redrawing legislative districts within the great state of North Carolina, please only rely on actual population counts - example the recent census showed 100 people of eligible voting age in this geographical area. There is no viable or ethical reason to involve any consideration of the voter's political affiliation, how they voted in the past, their sex or race or any other data points you may have on them.
267		Jul 27 2017 9:31AM	Nan Friedman	Hi I would like to ask that a bi partisan or non partisan committee be used to fairly redraw the districts. I also don't think it's right that a person (Hise) who is under investigation for election related issues be allowed to be on the redistricting committee that is going to redraw the districts soon. I left a comment yesterday but I'm leaving one here today because I'm unsure if this is a different area that is taking comments and I wanted to be sure I commented on this very important issue. Thank you.
268		Jul 27 2017 9:40AM	Mrs. Stephanie Avett	The level of gerrymandering in our state is atrocious and reflects the flawed idea that legislators should be allowed to draw the maps defining their districts and hence picking the demographics of their own voters. It's time for our state to institute an independent, non-partisan redistricting process that seeks to balance districts compactly and using objective criteria like the Efficiency Gap or other to restore equality to the votes of all North Carolinians.
269		Jul 27 2017 9:42AM	Mr. James Howard	The level of gerrymandering in our state is atrocious and reflects the flawed idea that legislators should be allowed to draw the maps defining their districts and hence picking the demographics of their own voters. It's time for our state to institute an independent, non-partisan redistricting process that seeks to balance districts compactly and using objective criteria like the Efficiency Gap or other to restore equality to the votes of all North Carolinians.

270		Jul 27 2017 9:43AM	Ms. Jean MacLeod	I am a resident of Macon County, US House district 11. Due to the gerrymandering in our district, my vote does not matter at all. We are supposed to be a country of "one man - one vote" and I have ZERO impact. Also, our state legislature is so skewed in its makeup, largely due to the way the voting districts have been divided. In a state with 52% of the voters registered as Democrats, to come up with a legislature that is 77% republican is frankly absurd. I have been active for the last few years in working towards non-partisan, FAIR redistricting in NC (perhaps based in the Iowa model?). I would love to have an opportunity to participate in an actual democracy rather than this politically manipulative voting structure currently in place. Thank you for your time and attention to this all-important matter.
271		Jul 27 2017 9:50AM	Dr. Mary McDermott	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disregard the political affiliation and race of voters 2. Disregard the location of any sitting member of the legislature 3. Strive for a compact shape of the district's boundaries 4. Respect the natural economic affiliation of communities, i.e. rural western NC counties have little in common with the counties surrounding Charlotte. 5. Try to have a district's boundaries not cut across county lines
272		Jul 27 2017 9:55AM	Ms. Paula Pierce	I am very concern about gerrymandering in our state. I don't think it is fair for lawmakers to draw their own districts. I have a real concern about the impact this practice is having on our democracy. The current gerrymandering process is threatening to the fair representation of the people in North Carolina. I would like to see a nonpartisan redistricting process put in place to take the back and forth "politics" out of redistricting in our state. I am encouraging you to push for redistricting reform legislation.
273		Jul 27 2017 9:55AM	Mrs. Kathryn Strickland	The level of gerrymandering in our state is atrocious and reflects the flawed idea that legislators should be allowed to draw the maps defining their districts and hence picking the demographics of their own voters. It's time for our state to institute an independent, non-partisan redistricting process that seeks to balance districts compactly and using objective criteria like the Efficiency Gap or other to restore equality to the votes of all North Carolinians.
274		Jul 27 2017 9:55AM	Mr. Jason Raitz	Our state has a long history of shamefully redistricting to benefit the party in power. For the true will of the people to be heard, we can't rely on politicians to pick and choose their own voters with convoluted maps. It is high time our state created an independent, non-partisan re-districting process that that seeks to balance districts compactly and using proven objective criteria like the Efficiency Gap or something similar. We have the unique opportunity to be a model for other states struggling with the same issue.
275		Jul 27 2017 10:09AM	Mr. Samuel Sotillo	<p>Dear assemblywomen and assemblymen:</p> <p>Let's pass the Redistricting Reform Act and set up a non-partisan, independent commission to draw fair maps and put the people in charge, not professional lobbyists and politicians! Our democracy deserves better... We need to stop undermining it and make sure we have congressional maps that guarantee every citizen an equal voice in our democracy!</p> <p>Thanks</p>
276		Jul 27 2017 10:14AM	Mr. Lee Wallace	A functioning democracy depends on fair elections. Partisan gerrymandering is an impediment to fair elections. It is my sincere hope that our state have an independent, non-partisan council redraw our congressional district map that does not create districts based on race or party affiliation.
277		Jul 27 2017 10:14AM	Katie Davenport	I request that redistricting be done on a strictly non-partisan basis, with no regard to where Democrats live or Republicans live. This is the only way to fairly represent the needs and wishes of all the citizens of NC. It has been done elsewhere in the country and I know it can be done here.
278		Jul 27 2017 10:17AM	Peggy McLeod	<p>Almost two months ago the U.S. Supreme Court unanimously ruled that North Carolina lawmakers unconstitutionally racially gerrymandered dozens of legislative districts.They packed as many African-American voters into as few districts as possible to dilute their voice in Raleigh. It is disgraceful. WE DESERVE FAIR MAPS NOW!. Legislators should not be picking their voters. Voters should be picking their legislators. ENOUGH IS ENOUGH.</p> <p>Peggy McLeod Weaverville, NC</p>
279		Jul 27 2017 10:19AM	Mrs. Sara White	I would like for our state to stop spending millions of tax dollars to defend unconstitutional voting districts. Please use compactness, population, and keeping communities together to guide your districts. All politics must be kept out of the process. Let a non-partisan body draw the lines with the goal of creating fair, compact districts.
280		Jul 27 2017 10:20AM	Mr. Terry Brooks	End gerrymandered districts now. Democracy depends on fair voting practices, and all attempts to interfere in that process is a danger to the constitution.
281		Jul 27 2017 10:21AM	Ms. Eileen Mangels	Redistricting: I want voting maps drawn free from partisan politics. Stop the gerrymandering!!!
282		Jul 27 2017 10:24AM	Dr. Gary Evans	Legislative districts must be drawn in a non-partisan manner. Any attempt to use gerrymandering to give one party advantage over the other is contrary to the principles of American democracy. Please put redistricting in the hands of an independent third party.

283		Jul 27 2017 10:24AM	Suzanne Klimek	I am writing to express that I want partisan-free district boundaries. The lines as they are currently drawn are crazy and blatantly partisan. I am excited that they will be changed and encourage those involved in the modifications to take this opportunity to demonstrate constructive and fair results.
284		Jul 27 2017 10:26AM	Cynthia Slater	We need nonpartisan districts to get fair representation in our state. This requires an independent committee. Please end the gerrymandering which has perverted NC government for too long.
285		Jul 27 2017 10:27AM	Ms. Kendall Del Rio	Hello, When we consider the foundation of our democracy, both within our state and nationally, fair and nonpartisan districting lies at the center. Without this, we are not a democracy, as the people's voice is manipulated and silenced. I urge you to please appoint a nonpartisan or bipartisan council to redraw our districts. This matter is much too important to let politics pervert and distort the will of the people. The people will be heard, and if you do not support that effort, your tenure and reputation in our state will be one not of democracy but of authoritarianism. There is a simple solution to creating fair districts, and this is a nonpartisan or bipartisan council.
286		Jul 27 2017 10:28AM	Paul Dobbin	Suggestions: #1 No Split Zip Codes. #2 No districts crossing natural boundries. (Like across bridgeless rivers or mountains) #3 Make it fair
287		Jul 27 2017 10:29AM	Mr. Johnny Wunder	It is essential you come up with a non-partisan transparent redistricting plan. I would recommend you develop an open source algorithm that takes into account the geography, existing governmental boundaries and population distribution and draws electoral boundaries based exclusively on that. With some work North Carolina could provide the technical foundation for open transparent election boundaries for the 2020 census becoming a leader in transparent fair representation of all citizens.
288		Jul 27 2017 10:30AM	Ms. Kate Capehart	Please support and implement fair and non-partisan redistricting. Gerrymandering, whether it's racial or partisan, is illegal and unconstitutional, and it has damaged our state and our people's voting rights. It's time to fix the damages.
289		Jul 27 2017 10:31AM	Elizabeth Gilliam	We all know North Carolina's districts are gerrymandered. This is the worst-kept secret in North Carolina's politics. Your voters have noticed and we demand fair voting rights. In fact, we demand INDEPENDENTLY re-drawn districts before the mid-year elections. Your country is watching. The time to act is NOW!
290		Jul 27 2017 10:31AM	Ms. Nelda Holder	As an unaffiliated voter, I have long believed in the efficacy and fairness of NON-gerrymandered districts. I strongly support removing control of drawing district lines from the Legislature -- be it Democratic or Republican in majority -- and holding an independent office accountable for independent, nonpartisan redistricting. That said, we need our new districts drawn as quickly as possible ... after SEVEN YEARS
291		Jul 27 2017 10:34AM	Bernadette Chasteen	We want fair voting districts that do not favor either party, but reflect the population of our state. If you need information on how to draw fair districts, please see this article. https://priceconomics.com/algorithm-the-unfairness-of-gerrymandering/
292		Jul 27 2017 10:39AM	Susan We er	In redrawing district lines,try not to embarrass our state further. Race, party affiliation and sociology-economic background should have no place in the debates.
293		Jul 27 2017 10:40AM	Ms. Erica Loring	What the GOP did to our voting districts was revolting and unconstitutional. The damage done to our state as a result of their racial gerrymandering for political gain is unprecedented and unacceptable. The NCGA must act quickly to move forward with equitable redistricting correcting this selfish action. They should not be allowed to use any resources/people/organizations used previously. They should also eliminate any possible conflicts (i.e. Kim and Phil Strach) for this process. An independent organization should be used and required for this districting action and any future districting action. No political party should be allowed to design districting to their favor and action should be taken to prevent this from continuing.

294		Jul 27 2017 10:41AM	Ms. Lindsey Grace	<p>Redistricting should be independent, not under the guise of bipartisanship because that is never true in NC. Those involved in previous mapping that have been deemed unconstitutional should no longer be eligible to participate in map drawing and redistricting. Those who have used or seen statistics regarding racial profile of voters should not be eligible for participation in redistricting and map drawing. Maps should not be drawn with any political affiliation or race or any other other determining factor of vote in mind. North Carolinians deserve to be able to live where they want and have the right to control their government via voting and participation and the current maps do no allow for that. My neighborhood is looped in with the county, meaning, unless I vote Republican, my vote most likely doesn't count, and when I say looped in, I mean my district has a tumor and that is where I live. Districts should not have tumors or be stretched across a state or MADE TO ACCOMMODATE ANYBODY BUT THE VOTERS OF THE COMMUNITIES THEY LIVE IN. Those that are under investigation for any matter pertaining to their elected jobs and or that were involved in map drawing in 2011, such as Ralph Hise, David Lewis, and Thomas Hofeller should BY NO MEANS be involved in a new map making process EVER again. All of these people were involved in illegal mapping due to purposeful manipulation and gerrymandering in 2011 and you know how that saying goes...fool me once....</p> <p>North Carolinians deserve better. We deserve to have our voices heard AND COUNT. Allowing those who have already failed a state over 6 years of representation to try again is not only a logistical failure, it's showing the people of NC fair maps do no matter to you now, then, or ever.</p>
295		Jul 27 2017 10:42AM	Ms. Kendrick Wilson	<p>I hope you will choose an independent entity to redraw maps, not a I would like to put forth my opinion that the following criteria to be used when redrawing the districts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disregard the political affiliation and race of voters 2. Disregard the location of any sitting member of the legislature 3. Strive for a compact shape of the district's boundaries 4. Respect the natural economic affiliation of communities, i.e. rural western NC counties have little in common with the counties surrounding Charlotte. 5. Try to have a district's boundaries not cut across county lines <p>Thanks, Kendrick</p>
296		Jul 27 2017 10:42AM	Mr. Lee Bristol	<p>I beg you (politicians on left and right) to grow up and do what is right. The fingerprints of self-interest from both sides are all over this issue. To govern is to serve others, and it is time to do the hard right vs. the easy wrong. Draw districts that make sense, without thoughts of getting re-elected. I am disgusted by how obvious it is you are serving yourselves and your parties</p>
297		Jul 27 2017 10:43AM	Ms. Alex Gwenn	<p>I am urging for nonpartisan redistricting, so that voters pick their politicians and not the other way around. Thank you.</p>
298		Jul 27 2017 10:46AM	Mr. Dorus Rudisill	<p>Stop Playing Games with our vote!</p> <p>NC has become a joke in the U.S. due to these expensive political games.</p>
299		Jul 27 2017 10:47AM	Mr. Michael Levine	<p>NC resident for 13 years. It's frustrating knowing that my district is so grossly drawn. Make it fair. NC is 50-50 Dems - Repsall I'm asking for is to make the house and senate represent this as well.</p>
300		Jul 27 2017 10:47AM	Ms. Nancy Brown	<p>Two and a half years ago, more than half the state's voters cast Democratic ballots, yet Republicans secured the vast majority of congressional seats.</p>
301		Jul 27 2017 10:47AM	Samuel Mohar	<p>As a concerned voter, I want to see districting based solely on non-political demographics- the politicizing of districting by either side undermines the democratic process in North Carolina. Democrats, Republicans, and everyone else: please work together to make robust, nonprolitical districting and districting rules that will allow North Carolinian voices to be heard equally and prevent any one party from consolidating power via nondemocratic processes, now and in the future.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
302		Jul 27 2017 10:48AM	Mrs. Sally Wohlbruck	<p>I would like to express my concerns to my local representatives (Jay Adams and Andy Wells) that hiring the same individual who constructed the previous maps "with surgical precision" will only lead to costly litigation at the taxpayers' expense.</p>
303		Jul 27 2017 10:51AM	Mrs. Caitlin Blanchard	<p>I would like the following criteria to be used when redrawing the districts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disregard the political affiliation and race of voters 2. Disregard the location of any sitting member of the legislature 3. Strive for a compact shape of the district's boundaries 4. Respect the natural economic affiliation of communities, i.e. rural western NC counties have little in common with the counties surrounding Charlotte. 5. Try to have a district's boundaries not cut across county lines <p>Thank you.</p>

304		Jul 27 2017 10:51AM	Ms. Lindsey Mudge	<p>It is essential that we abide by the following when redrawing our 28 voting districts. This will allow us to have the truest representation possible serving on the behalf of all North Carolinians.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disregard the political affiliation and race of voters 2. Disregard the location of any sitting member of the legislature 3. Strive for a compact shape of the district’s boundaries 4. Respect the natural economic affiliation of communities, i.e. rural western NC counties have little in common with the counties surrounding Charlotte. 5. Try to have a district’s boundaries not cut across county lines
305		Jul 27 2017 10:53AM	Darlene Battaile	<p>Please just draw fair districts, no gerrymandering of any area for any political party. Please encourage every citizen to vote and help them vote!!</p>
306		Jul 27 2017 10:53AM	Mr. Aaron Strickland	<p>The level of gerrymandering in our state is atrocious and reflects the flawed idea that legislators should be allowed to draw the maps defining their districts and hence picking the demographics of their own voters.</p> <p>It's time for our state to institute an independent, non-partisan redistricting process that seeks to balance districts compactly and using objective criteria like the Efficiency Gap or other to restore equality to the votes of all North Carolinians.</p>
307		Jul 27 2017 10:55AM	Mrs. Nancy Gray	<p>Please make the redistricting process fair and representative of all NC citizens. Although gerrymandering has been done by both parties, partisanship has no place in this process. Fair voting maps means fair - and accuratelv represented - elections.</p>
308		Jul 27 2017 10:56AM	Ms. Teddy Jordan	<p>A non-partisan committee s/b used to redraw district lines. Iowa uses a model that has district lines drawn by a non-partisan citizen committee. That w/b a much more fair and balanced approach than what has been used by BOTH political parties. Thank you.</p>
309		Jul 27 2017 10:58AM	Ms. Carol Reinhardt	<p>North Carolina voters demand fair and equitable voting districts AND voter registration laws. It's time our elected representatives actually reflect the wishes of our citizens.</p>
310		Jul 27 2017 11:00AM	Mr. Michael Eisenberg	<p>I was at the meeting yesterday and found it quite enlightening. I believe the question regarding drawing maps again in a partisan fashion was answered with a hem and a haw saying what the committee decides. We need fair maps which allows the people of NC to choose their representatives and not the other way around.</p> <p>Please draw maps that are fair. I believe if the courts decide to draw the maps they will be. My advice is to come very close to what the court would in an independent process.</p> <p>Thanks.</p>
311		Jul 27 2017 11:03AM	Liesl Dineen	<p>I'm struggling to understand how it is that we even have to defend our right to fair elections. Use math and science, and draw the lines without considering parties or minority status. Please?</p>
312		Jul 27 2017 11:03AM	Rachel Prouty	<p>This needs to be an independent process that doesn't favor either party.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disregard the political affiliation and race of voters 2. Disregard the location of any sitting member of the legislature 3. Strive for a compact shape of the district’s boundaries 4. Respect the natural economic affiliation of communities, i.e. rural western NC counties have little in common with the counties surrounding Charlotte. 5. Try to have a district’s boundaries not cut across county lines
313		Jul 27 2017 11:04AM	Mr. Thomas Davis	<p>We need a nonpartisan commission to draw districts. Districts must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> aid no incumbents, parties or racial populations; and generally follow county boundaries and natural geographic connectivity.
314		Jul 27 2017 11:04AM	Mrs. Lauren Perdue	<p>Government should reflect the voice of the people. Non-partisan redistricting is the only way to ensure the North Carolina government is fair and just. Please take immediate action to end gerrymandering now.</p>
315		Jul 27 2017 11:05AM	Mrs. Kimberly Daggerhart	<p>I'd like the following criteria to be used when redrawing the districts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disregard the political affiliation and race of voters 2. Disregard the location of any sitting member of the legislature 3. Strive for a compact shape of the district’s boundaries 4. Respect the natural economic affiliation of communities, i.e. rural western NC counties have little in common with the counties surrounding Charlotte. 5. Try to have a district’s boundaries not cut across county lines <p>Thank you.</p>
316		Jul 27 2017 11:05AM	Mr. Dan Jaworsky	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disregard the political affiliation and race of voters 2. Disregard the location of any sitting member of the legislature 3. Strive for a compact shape of the district’s boundaries 4. Respect the natural economic affiliation of communities, i.e. rural western NC counties have little in common with the counties surrounding Charlotte. 5. Try to have a district’s boundaries not cut across county lines

317		Jul 27 2017 11:05AM	Mrs. Kristen Hernandez	<p>To whom it may concern:</p> <p>Redistricting is a sacred trust, as is anything when it comes to the communication between the voters and our elected representatives. I strongly believe that this state has become the disgrace of the nation in its inability to a) produce evenly-drawn, non-biased voting districts, and b) present qualified, intelligent and sincerely dedicated candidates for office. We need a non-biased, non-partisan, independent committee who will use mathematical and logical means to produce reasonable Congressional and General Assembly districts, which honestly reflect the actual composition of the overall population of North Carolina. as well as the populations of the individual districts.</p> <p>We must stop trying to stack the deck in our favor, whoever "we" may be at any given time. Drawing racially, politically, or ideologically biased districts violates the deepest meanings of this country's Constitution, violates the intent of the founding fathers of this country, and violates the rights of the peoples of our nation today.</p> <p>If we want to win elections, we must return to the grassroots and ask the people what they want - then devise ways to make the people's will, a reality. This means ALL the people, not just a 30% minority of people who shout the loudest and crowd the Internet with their boorish and backwards opinions. We cannot simply rely on tricking the system so that that 30%, which is so dedicated to its misguided principles, is the only part of the nation's peoples that is heard. We MUST serve ALL of our people, not just 30%.</p> <p>If you cannot win elections without rigging the system, then it is time to get out of politics because you are not good enough to lead this state.</p>
318		Jul 27 2017 11:08AM	Jonathan Daggerhart	<p>You should follow these simple principles to create fair districts-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Ignore political affiliation and race of voters 2. Ignore location of sitting members of the legislature 3. Make compact shapes of the district’s boundaries. No more sprawling weird shapes to serve political parties 4. Respect the natural economic affiliation of communities, i.e. rural NC counties have little in common with the counties surrounding Charlotte. 5. Do not have district's boundaries cut across county lines.
319		Jul 27 2017 11:09AM	Mrs. Jean Orr	<p>The level of gerrymandering in our state is atrocious and reflects the flawed idea that legislators should be allowed to draw the maps defining their districts and hence picking the demographics of their own voters. It's time for our state to institute an independent, non-partisan redistricting process that seeks to balance districts compactly and using objective criteria like the Efficiency Gap or other to restore equality to the votes of all North Carolinians.</p>
320		Jul 27 2017 11:10AM	david dwinn	<p>senators and congressmen, drawing election districts must be done with zero demographic info, else you are destroying the very democracy in america that our families have fought and died to preserve. the only data that should be used is population count, and respecting existing municipla borders. anything else is just cheating, and is deplorable!</p>
321		Jul 27 2017 11:10AM	Mr. Robert Ballard	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disregard the political affiliation and race of voters 2. Disregard the location of any sitting member of the legislature 3. Strive for a compact shape of the district’s boundaries 4. Respect the natural economic affiliation of communities, i.e. rural western NC counties have little in common with the counties surrounding Charlotte. 5. Try to have a district's boundaries not cut across county lines.
322		Jul 27 2017 11:11AM	Mr. Douglas Long	<p>Democracy requires fair representation of the people. It is time to put a stop to "they did it first" politically gerrymandered voting districts. Draw maps in a bipartisan way using fair and non-politically motivated methods. Then each party can try to win votes by virtue of their policies and not by imaginatively structures maps.</p>
323		Jul 27 2017 11:12AM	Mrs. Seri Anderson	<p>Please turn over the redistricting process to a nonpartisan group external to the legislature. I know that both Democrats and Republicans have drawn districts for partisan advantage, and I want it to stop. I think this round of redistricting would be a great moment to change that endless tug of war.</p> <p>If the legislature insists on retaining control of the redistricting process, please use it to ensure fair representation for all of our communities. I don't think that making citizens votes - out most fundamental way of participating in democracy - count unequally is the path toward an engaged citizenry.</p>
324		Jul 27 2017 11:13AM	Ms. Hannah Randall	<p>The gerrymandering of districts in our state is harming North Carolina and its people. Further, our current district maps reflect the flawed idea that legislators should be allowed to draw the maps defining their districts and hence picking the demographics of their own voters. It's time for our state to institute an independent, non-partisan redistricting process that seeks to balance districts compactly and using objective criteria like the Efficiency Gap or other to restore equality to the votes of all North Carolinians.</p>
325		Jul 27 2017 11:15AM	Mr. Michael Hill	<p>We need to have a non-partisan outside group do our districting. We are firmly a purple state and our state legislature should represent that.</p>

326		Jul 27 2017 11:15AM	Steven Lord	It's past time to move on to non-partisan redistricting like Nebraska. Even a bipartisan independent commission like Arizona, California, Idaho, or Washington would be preferable to these constantly challenged and litigated (AT TAXPAYER EXPENSE!) districts.
327		Jul 27 2017 11:19AM	Mrs. Sue Ellen Camden-Lee	We need fair and equal maps for redistricting in our state. Get rid of the gerrymandering criminal behavior and correct it appropriately. NOW!
328		Jul 27 2017 11:20AM	Mr. Jesse Boggs	<p>What do you think are the consequences of partisan gerrymandering? -- retention of republican power? Well, of course and the early death of democracy!</p> <p>Why care, then? Who needs democracy?</p> <p>Have you considered what follows democracy? Mob rule? Autocracy? Dictatorship? Destruction? The end of society?</p> <p>Our joint survival depends on equitable voting districts. Our joint survival.</p> <p>Do otherwise and don't complain of the unwanted and unanticipated results. Civil war is not civil but it is war!</p> <p>Think of your loved ones, your children, your extended families. In the 1860 US Civil War 50% died. Now think of the same thing happening tomorrow to your family.</p>
329		Jul 27 2017 11:22AM	Ms. Lynn Fell	Why is the author of the illegal gerrymandered districts working on the new mapping? At the very least this gives the appearance that the GOP is seeking to maintain their majority illegally in an evenly split state. I hope the GOP will ensure that all constituents are represented fairly in this process
330		Jul 27 2017 11:26AM	Joa Palmroos	To all legislators, your constituents want voting district lines drawn free from partisan agendas. Remember WE VOTE and we are watching.
331		Jul 27 2017 11:26AM	Ms. Estelle Stokes Bowden	Right now, I feel very little representation by my elected officials. It seems that the only goal for each party, is to hurt the other, which has a negative impact on the citizens of North Carolina. When redistricting, be kind, be honest, check your biases, and make ethical decisions, not petty and self-serving ones. Districts should be drawn to reflect the diversity of this state, not to put one party at an advantage over another. Residents of all districts should feel that their interests and needs will be served with these new districts and that they will not be ignored. For example, just because historically, more Blacks have voted for Democratic candidates, does not mean that districts should be drawn to disenfranchise them. Work across party lines. Us everyday citizens do this everyday; why can't you????
332		Jul 27 2017 11:29AM	Mr. A.H. Jessup	Redistricting MUST be non-partisan from this point forward. We've had enough slime and manipulation, underhanded gimmickry and outright criminality. Let's get straight with our own people for crying out loud.
333		Jul 27 2017 11:33AM	Ms. Kim Garmon	An independent,bi-partisan commission is the ONLY fair and reasonable way to draw district maps that actually allow for representative government. Please show some integrity and respect for the voters over your personal corporate profit interests.
334		Jul 27 2017 11:34AM	Mr. Austin Rhodes	<p>As voting is an essential and important part of our republic, it is important that everyone's right to vote is held to be sacred and as equal as possible. Gerrymandering (on any basis) is an attempt to influence voting not through ideas but through political rules that do not reflect the will of the people.</p> <p>The level of gerrymandering in our state is atrocious and reflects the flawed idea that legislators should be allowed to draw the maps defining their districts and hence picking the demographics of their own voters. It's time for our state to institute an independent, non-partisan redistricting process that seeks to balance districts compactly and using objective criteria like the Efficiency Gap or other to restore equality to the votes of all North Carolinians.</p>
335		Jul 27 2017 11:36AM	Erin Schuermeyer	Everyone deserves to be represented. Redistricting should be done on nonpartisan lines.
336		Jul 27 2017 11:36AM	Melissa Lefko	Please consider the large number of independent voters as well as the rapidly changing demographics of this state. I understand that the rural/urban divide is great, however, urban taxes pay for rural services. The only acceptable boundary designation is one based purely on population numbers, as well as one with an eye to future demographic shifts. No other designation should ever come into consideration.
337		Jul 27 2017 11:38AM	Christine Waske	<p>We the people demand fair and honest redistricting by an outside nonpartisan 3rd party.</p> <p>The NC legislators have failed at providing honest voting conditions The redistricting maps should be drawn by the local area by an unbiased party with public input</p>

338		Jul 27 2017 11:38AM	Mr. David Nikdel	I support fair play. Democrats gerrymandered the state to begin with and Republicans were right to call them cheaters then. Now Republicans have made it even worse and seem deaf to the same complaints! We need to end this once and for all and get back to governing from the middle. I will support fair districting no matter who it helps. This is not a partisan issue it is vital for the health of our democracy! I'm willing to give of my time and treasure to support this cause so watch out local politicians who vote against. There are more like me and it doesn't take many votes to lose a state district.
339		Jul 27 2017 11:43AM	Dr. Jeffrey Collins	Please set up a non-partisan commission to handle the drawing of new (and fair) districts for all General Assembly races.
340		Jul 27 2017 11:46AM	Ms. Rebecca LaPrade	We want redistricting that is fair to everyone in the state. I am tired of the republicans ignoring a court order like they are above the law. NO ONE is above the law period.
341		Jul 27 2017 11:48AM	Mr. Anthony Piacenza	Redistrict now and draw fair and impartial districts! I have had enough of the efforts to divide and conquer the state and its residents. Please take race, party, and all other means of segmenting and separating our state an population OUT of our elections and representation. Turn over redistricting to a truly independent redistricting commission and let every North Carolinian's vote count equally. The legislature should reflect the state.
342		Jul 27 2017 11:49AM	Mr. Phillip Reeder	Since the beginning of the year there has been much discussion of voter fraud but somehow gerrymandering is never included or singled out as voter fraud. Gerrymandering means politicians get to pick their voters, instead of voters choosing their representative. Clearly this is genuine voter fraud. If NC lawmakers are concerned about voter fraud and truly care about fair elections then I urge you to draw new voting maps free from partisan politics.
343		Jul 27 2017 11:56AM	Virginia Perschbacher	The NC legislative must provide opportunities for all voices to be heard in the selection of our elected officials at all levels. Gerrymandered districts based on race are unacceptable. The redistricting process should be a bipartisan effort and should be completed well before the mid-term elections.
344		Jul 27 2017 11:57AM	Ms. Diane Daniels	Please support the end of gerrymandered legislative districts. Voting maps should not be snaking sections made to pick up desired constituents for manipulated results.
345		Jul 27 2017 11:58AM	Mr. Anthony Madejczyk	Our politicians shouldn't be allowed to pick their voters. It should be the other way around. Having party-majority districts makes government more bloated and prone to satisfying special interests over the needs of all North Carolinians. Make politics competitive again so we can get the best out of both parties.
346		Jul 27 2017 12:07PM	Ms. Deborah Good	non-partisan districts, nothing more, nothing less. It is the only way to have qovernment for the people and by the people!
347		Jul 27 2017 12:07PM	Ms. Martha Bradley	Redistricting should be a nonpartisan process. Create an independent commission to draw districts according to the North Carolina Constitution so the people have fair and balanced state leadership.
348		Jul 27 2017 12:10PM	Dr. Nathaniel Grubbs	Please use a non-partisan committee for redistricting. Voters should get to choose their politicians, not the other way around. Yet, while more voters are supporting Democratic legislators than Republican in NC, the General Assembly continues to be very lopsided in its partisan makeup. Several maps have been proposed by outside groups that would make NC's legislative maps more competitive, which will make our state a better democracy. Please consider one of these nonpartisan maps, or a nonpartisan commission for the next round of Redistricting.
349		Jul 27 2017 12:10PM	Ms. Jennifer Griffin	Gerrymandering for racial or political affiliations is disgusting. Let the representatives of NC more closely reflect the diversity of this state.
350		Jul 27 2017 12:11PM	Mrs. Erin Hoy	We need a non-partisan, independent committee to draw the districts. No more jerrymandering
351		Jul 27 2017 12:14PM	Dr. Susan Ortiz	First and foremost redistricting should be done by an INDEPENDENT commission that includes an equal number of Republicans and Democrats. Districts should not be created with any concern for a voter's political affiliation or the current location of any sitting member of the legislature. Districts should try to not cross county lines if at all possible and should be as compact as possible. Cities should not be broken up and included with large swaths of the county unless absolutely necessary to balance the districts. Race can and should play a role as long as the intent is to address past racial discrimination and continued inclusion of the voices of communities of color. Communities of color should not be split into different districts if it also meets the other criteria listed - compact districts that don't cut up cities or counties if possible. Thank you.
352		Jul 27 2017 12:17PM	Justin Lancaster	Take a stand to end gerrymandering by all parties. The GOP wanted this years ago and are should still feel the same. The Shortest-Splitline Algorithm would be a great way to get politics out of this process.
353		Jul 27 2017 12:17PM	Mrs. Cinnamon Frame	I am tired of these gerrymandered districts. If you can't represent all of the people who live in your district fairly, then you shouldn't be elected. This redistricting needs to be FAIR and BIPARTISAN. You should be a representative of a clear constituent region with common concerns.

354		Jul 27 2017 12:29PM	Zachary Schafer	Proportionate representation via fair voting is vital to the healthy functioning of any democracy. I believe that North Carolina has fallen far short of this in recent years due to partisan and racially biased redistricting. As such I strongly advocate that the state move to an independent process to draw district lines. Failing that, I think we must do everything possible to prevent partisan districting so that our state can stay strong and our politicians are held accountable to the will of the people.
355		Jul 27 2017 12:34PM	Mr. Erich Strupe	I want voting maps drawn free from partisan politics.
356		Jul 27 2017 12:43PM	Mr. erik raudsep	This needs to be done soon and it is very simple look at a basis of average income and race both are reported by US census. There should be nothing in regards to political affiliation. Gerrymandering was intended as a negative term not something to aspire to. With computers this can be done in a matter of hours. It needs to be totally non-partisan and maybe just maybe we can keep North Carolina out of the news for the bad things that we seem to get so much negative press about lately.
357		Jul 27 2017 12:49PM	Ms. Laurel Ullman	Creating legislative districts should not be the purview of the very politicians attempting to get into office. This is an inherent conflict of interest. We need independent creation of these districts to avoid further gerrymandering and to reverse what gerrymandering is already doing to our state. Honorable politicians who work hard will still be able to get elected by listening and responding to their constituents. It is the right thing to do. Please, do the right thing.
358		Jul 27 2017 12:54PM	Dr. Brenda Rubens	NC voting districts must be redrawn in a fair and nonpartisan manner before our state can provide an objective and honest environment for our voters.
359		Jul 27 2017 1:01PM	Mrs. diane geitner	I am demanding that new electoral maps be drawn to provide for fair elections in N.C. which ENCOURAGE people to vote and to know that their votes count!!
360		Jul 27 2017 1:03PM	Mrs. Kathy Stilwell	<p>It is imperative that redistricting lines need to be drawn in a nonpartisan manner.</p> <p>1. Increase transparency during the redistricting or mapmaking process and</p> <p>2. Give citizens the opportunity to draw state legislative and congressional districts themselves.</p> <p>Base the method on Ohio's method. Together, the League of Women Voters of Ohio, Common Cause Ohio, Ohio Citizen Action and other partners held a real-time competition using census data and partisan information created by Cleveland State University Prof. Mark Salling. This competition gave citizens the opportunity to draw state legislative and congressional districts.</p> <p>Criteria for the Redistricting Competition Compactness Competitiveness Representational fairness (not favoring one political party over another and mapmaking that reflect the partisan makeup of NC as a whole) Respect for county and municipal boundaries Mapmakers were also give guidance on how to create majority-minority districts that respect the Voting Rights Act.</p>
361		Jul 27 2017 1:05PM	Mrs. Janice Crouch	Please end gerrymandering and appoint a non-partisan board to oversee districting of legislative districts in North Carolina.
362		Jul 27 2017 1:09PM	Megan Bame	I remember NC being the literal textbook example of gerrymandering when I was in school. (Gerrymander: manipulate the boundaries of (an electoral constituency) so as to favor one party or class). Seemed at the time (20+ years ago) like it should be part of our past history; something fixed long ago. The perception of today's political environment is that control and self-service, not public service, are paramount values. As such, neither party is likely to set aside their interests, i.e., relinquish control and potentially loose their job, to get the job of redistricting done right. Please use an independent, non-partisan redistricting process using objective criteria to put gerrymandering in North Carolina's past.
363		Jul 27 2017 1:20PM	Ms. Alice Turner	Please adopt a nonpartisan, fair methodology in drawing our districts. There are examples out there of how to do this effectively. It is the right thing to do.
364		Jul 27 2017 1:23PM	Ms. ROBERTA MADDEN	To redesign our legislative and congressional districts, we need an independent commission in order to free the process from political and racist influences. The voters should be able to choose our lawmakers instead of the lawmakers choosing their voters. The current system is extremely unfair.
365		Jul 27 2017 1:26PM	Mrs. Penelope Davies	It is important that the committee that draws the new congressional districts NOT BE THE SAME PEOPLE WHO DREW THE LAST MAP....Have a committee that reflects who we are in this state. Otherwise, you will find yourselves in court again and again Do you think we are all stupid?
366		Jul 27 2017 1:27PM	James Marshall	Pick a first grade class by lottery and let them draw the map as a school project.

367		Jul 27 2017 1:27PM	Erin Lavin	Stop the gerrymandering! The level of gerrymandering in our state is atrocious and reflects the flawed idea that legislators should be allowed to draw the maps defining their districts and hence picking the demographics of their own voters. It's time for our state to institute an independent, non-partisan redistricting process that seeks to balance districts compactly and using objective criteria like the Efficiency Gap or other to restore equality to the votes of all North Carolinians. Please!
368		Jul 27 2017 1:30PM	Ms. Terry Landers	It is time to REMOVE PARTISAN POLITICS from the process of establishing voting districts. An INDEPENDENT commission (independent from the legislative bodies and partisan groups) should be established with redistricting processes and standards that promote fair and effective representation for all citizens of NC. Members of such an independent commission should reflect the diversity of the unit of government that is the subject of redistricting, including citizens at large, representatives of public interest groups, and members of minority groups. Districts should be apportioned primarily according to population ("one person one vote"), substantially equal population in each, geographically contiguous, with respect for boundaries of municipalities and counties. Party affiliation or racial makeup of the citizens should have absolutely NO INFLUENCE on the resulting district boundaries.
369		Jul 27 2017 1:31PM	Mr. Howard Shepherd	Establish an independent, non-partisan commission to create districts based on population and geography, and not on political advantage. Both Democrats and Republicans have shamelessly used gerrymandering to create an unrepresentative political majority at the expense of the citizens' voice. It's time to stop that, and let political ideas be contested in a fair marketplace rather than continuing to preach to the choir. Given the impending Supreme Court decision about Wisconsin's gerrymandering for political advantage, an independent commission would have the added benefit of guaranteeing that NC won't have to re-draw districts again if Wisconsin loses its case.
370		Jul 27 2017 1:33PM	Mr. Pete Glidewell	The number one issue in government today is NOT healthcare, the economy, immigration or a HB2. It is that we are losing our Democracy with extreme partisan gerrymandering that has muted the true voice of the people. In North Carolina over the last three elections the state has voted 48% Democrat, 50% Republican and 2% other. Yet in races that are in districts, there are 39% of the NC House, 30% of the NC Senate and 23% of the US Congressional delegation that are Democrats. We do not have a representative democracy right now and the anger over not being heard is growing. The process needs to change to non partisan redistricting of as many whole contiguous and common need counties in a district as possible without regard to race or party. Yes.....both parties have done it....it is time for it to end.
371		Jul 27 2017 1:40PM	William McNeil	1) confine districts to one county if at all possible 2) split counties when necessary, but attempt to avoid splitting municipalities 3) do not consider the party of registered voters when allocating population to each district 4) follow main highways and geographic boundaries wherever possible
372		Jul 27 2017 1:42PM	William McNeil	Use a non-partisan commission to draw district maps, which would then be presented to the House and Senate for ratification on an up-or-down vote.
373		Jul 27 2017 1:47PM	Mr. Brian Layh	North Carolina citizens deserve a fair, non-partisan body to be in charge of redrawing our illegal, unconstitutional, racially-gerrymandered maps. It is extremely clear by the Supreme Court's recent rulings that the NCGOP is not capable of leading this effort nor is their hired gun, Tom Hofeller. Why would the NCGA use the services of, let alone trust, this man to accomplish what he has already failed to do at the literal expense of the taxpayers of this state? This redistricting process needs to be fully transparent, not drawn up in back rooms with no public debate and/or input like so many other recent NCGOP bills/laws. Remove the gerrymandered, partisan bias from this process and empower a non-partisan, neutral body that will produce fair, legal, constitutional maps so that NC citizens can be fairly represented. Thank you.
374		Jul 27 2017 1:51PM	Mr. Brian Cox	The level of gerrymandering in our state is absolutely atrocious and reflects the flawed idea that legislators should be allowed to draw the maps defining their districts and hence picking the demographics of their own voters. It's time for our state to institute an independent, non-partisan redistricting process that seeks to balance districts compactly and using objective criteria like the Efficiency Gap or other to restore equality to the votes of all North Carolinians. Thanks for your time
375		Jul 27 2017 1:54PM	Dr. Laura Hart	As the general assembly considers redistricting, I urge them to pursue non-partisan methods of redistricting. Districts made through partisan means, though technically legal, are not in service of fair representation of citizens' interests and should be abolished. A government of, by, and for the people, should approximate the people. North Carolina's voters are about 50% conservative and 50% liberal. Why isn't North Carolina's government?

376		Jul 27 2017 2:00PM	Mrs. Lisa Neylan	<p>The people of North Carolina deserve a fair vote. Please assure the following when redistricting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disregard the political affiliation and race of voters 2. Disregard the location of any sitting member of the legislature 3. Strive for a compact shape of the district's boundaries 4. Respect the natural economic affiliation of communities, i.e. rural western NC counties have little in common with the counties surrounding Charlotte. 5. Try to have a district's boundaries not cut across county lines <p>Thank you, Lisa Neylan</p>
377		Jul 27 2017 2:02PM	Mr. Charles Clay	<p>The people of North Carolina deserve a fair vote. Please assure the following when redistricting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disregard the political affiliation and race of voters 2. Disregard the location of any sitting member of the legislature 3. Strive for a compact shape of the district's boundaries 4. Respect the natural economic affiliation of communities, i.e. rural western NC counties have little in common with the counties surrounding Charlotte. 5. Try to have a district's boundaries not cut across county lines <p>Thank you, Charles Clay</p>
378		Jul 27 2017 2:06PM	Darlene Stone	I want voting maps drawn free from partisan politics.
379		Jul 27 2017 2:07PM	Tondra Bowers	<p>Based on statistics regarding those who count themselves as Democrats and Republicans, our legislature does not reflect this.</p> <p>I am an Independent voter and only declare an affiliation with a party during the primary. I feel my voice should still be heard even if I am an Independent.</p> <p>As for redistricting, I don't understand how this can be so complicated. Lines should be drawn by geographical/population areas. Anything less, seems to be nefarious. Let's preserve democracy and leave out political parties. This goes for BOTH parties. I believe people will vote for those who hold convictions that reflect their personal beliefs, not political affiliation.</p> <p>The Supreme Court seems to agree that our districts are drawn to disenfranchise certain groups of people. To facilitate this, they should drawn along non-partisan lines to more accurately reflect the NC population and be done by a NON-PARTISAN committee. This would reduce the opportunities for any party, race, religion, etc. to be dominant over the voting process.</p> <p>I certainly hope the legislature shows NC, and the US, that they can be non-partisan and come together.</p> <p>With respect,</p>
380		Jul 27 2017 2:09PM	Mr. Jeff Smith	<p>Hello, my name is Jeff Smith and I am an independent voter in Hillsborough, NC. Please support HB200. Working to help end voter suppression and gerrymandering in North Carolina should be of the state's highest priority. Since Gerry, redrawing districts to pick and choose voters is one of the bigger plagues on our democratic system. By supporting independent, non-partisan redistricting, we can see a shift in restoring democracy in our state. Please support HB200!</p>

381		Jul 27 2017 2:10PM	Jake Quinn	<p>Thank you for this opportunity to comment. As new district boundaries are drawn, I urge the NCGA to consider the following factors only:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Equal populations - One person, one vote. 2. Compactness - Districts should have compact shapes. 3. Contiguity - The components of a district should adjoin one another, unseparated by other districts or geographic boundaries. 4. Respect for existing political boundaries - Counties should not be split between districts. 5. Respect for natural geographic features - Rivers, mountains and other natural features that create natural boundaries should be taken into account. 6. Respect for identifiable communities of interest - Similarities in social, cultural, ethnic and economic interest should be recognized and taken into account, as should school districts and other formal relationships between municipalities. 7. Respect for overarching law - Districts must be drawn in conformance with the US Constitution, the Voting Rights Act, and other federal statutory guidance. <p>At the same time, I urge the NCGA to ignore completely such factors as party registration and the residence of incumbents. It is high time we stopped having legislators choose their constituents, and started letting voters choose their legislators.</p> <p>The entire redistricting process should be open and transparent, with information distributed timely and widely, and hearings held in Raleigh and across the state to ensure citizens' ability to review and comment.</p> <p>The NCGA has distinguished itself in recent years by consistently developing and implementing unconstitutional legislative districts. I I support a fair redistricting, free from partisan politics. Gerrymandering based on party affiliation or race, or any other personal characteristics, must not occur. North Carolinians demand fair votina mans and fair elections!</p>
382		Jul 27 2017 2:28PM	Ms. Jessica Levasseur	<p>We need to remove redistricting from political influence as much as we can. This should be a decision made by geographers and cartographers, not politicians. Almost all of our State Colleges have departments of geography. Why not have each submit new district maps based on geographic criteria and pick a few for a final vote. Do the right thing. We need to restore faith in government in all parties.</p>
383		Jul 27 2017 2:29PM	Mr. Patrick Donnelly	<p>Just do the redistricting by population only.Do not look at Board of Elections info. Actually that should be illegal anyway. Do not jump around and pick specific persons by their registration. And for goodness sakes do not have one district scrolling down through 5 or 6 counties. That will be gerrymandering. Just do it fairly. We are watching</p>
384		Jul 27 2017 2:29PM	Mrs. Helen Priggemeier	<p>Enough! Its been weeks/months since the Supreme Court decisions. The time for excuses is over. I demand fair redistricting in North Carolina, free from racism & free from partisan politics. Let us choose the legislature we want - not the other way around. Allow our voices to be heard. Act now.</p>
385		Jul 27 2017 2:29PM	Ms. Ruth Talley	<p>Dear Legislators,</p> <p>It is time for a nonpartisan redistricting commission. Districts must be drawn without racial or partisan gerrymandering. Let the people's votes count and put an end to spending money defending indefensible positions.</p> <p>Respectfully, Barbara Gregg</p>
386		Jul 27 2017 2:34PM	Mrs. Barbara Gregg	<p>Maps should always be drawn by an independent third party with no political affiliation. New maps should be redrawn as soon as possible considering the outcome of the federal lawsuit last year. The bills passed between the court's decision and today are all illegitimate since the state does not have fair representation of it's constituents. We need new elections with newly drawn districts from an independent entity before the end of 2017</p>
387		Jul 27 2017 2:39PM	Jennifer Beaufort	<p>I am disgusted how many variations of gerrymandered districts North Carolina has been caught with over the past 10 years. It's clear the only way to draw fair, nonpartisan districts is to have an independent committee draw and vote on the lines. Voting districts should not disenfranchise or silence your voters.</p>
388		Jul 27 2017 2:42PM	Ms. Olivia Mungal	<p>Please draw the lines fairly so our state can be represented as it should be.</p>
389		Jul 27 2017 2:42PM	Melisa Pfeil	<p>Gerrymandering is unacceptable regardless of which party it helps. Please redistrict our state in a way that ensures fair representation for all North Carolinians.</p>
390		Jul 27 2017 2:42PM	Ms. Kathleen Baryenbruch	<p>I want an independent redistricting commission to redraw fair boundray lines using clear criteria. Anything less than an independent commission is not acceptable></p>
391		Jul 27 2017 2:42PM	Hope Panara	

392		Jul 27 2017 2:46PM	Mr. Blaise Freeman	Please enact a non-partisan process for redistricting. Currently whichever party is in power redraws the maps to favor their party. That is a glaring conflict of interest, and is neither productive nor in the interest of constituents. Everyone would benefit from non-partisan redistricting. I was very impressed by the plan and materials I saw presented by Common Cause NC for how this has worked in other states (and especially well in Iowa) and could work for us too in North Carolina. As someone who votes for the candidate and not party line I am interested in seeing competitive elections in each district. And as a tax-payer I am interested in seeing a process that doesn't result in lawsuit after lawsuit (well-founded or not). We need to close the divide in politics not follow the same, flawed process that has served us poorly for so many generations.
393		Jul 27 2017 2:55PM	Jon Abrams	You MUST MUST MUST include Dems in this effort to retain any semblance of legitimacy. This state is 51/49 and pick 'em for any given election, and for both houses of the General Assembly to be controlled by supermajorities denies the entire precept of one-person, one-vote. DO NOT use redistricting as a tool for disenfranchising voters!
394		Jul 27 2017 2:59PM	Mr. Richard Wynne	I am a North Carolina constituent, and I feel that it is time to end the practice of partisan redistricting. It is time to unite the state and end the widening partisan divide. I also feel that the power of my vote is being diluted and negated by this corrosive and undemocratic process. Please draw maps that are fair and non-partisan. Thank you.
395		Jul 27 2017 3:03PM	Jennifer Keith	I want voting maps drawn free from partisan politics! Thank you!
396		Jul 27 2017 3:05PM	Mrs. Marcia Welsh	I support fair voting districts that are drawn free from political interference. There are other states that have done this successfully. I am ashamed at the way NC does this vital matter. What are you afraid of?
397		Jul 27 2017 3:06PM	Mrs. Erin Isgett	I want to see an end to gerrymandering. I want fair voting maps and fair elections.
398		Jul 27 2017 3:06PM	Brandi Bragg	Please use a non-partisan, independent company to draw these maps. Please stop wasting money on arguing about it and hiring the same guy who drew the unconstitutional maps we currently have. Stop the bickering about who started the gerrymandering and have the map drawn scientifically, with as little bias as possible. Doing that just might save some of your jobs.
399		Jul 27 2017 3:09PM	Ms. Shel Anderson	I strongly object to partisan redistricting. I am a proponent of a non-partisan redistricting committee making the maps that delineate both GA and federal positions. I would like this to happen quickly so that we can vote again for a legal GA this year.
400		Jul 27 2017 3:11PM	Dr. Helene Hilger	There are several transparent and highly regarded methods for creating fair and representative voting districts. It is disingenuous to pretend that methods that created the faulty ones we now have should be employed again. Redistricting should be determined by an independent special commission, with membership that reflects the diversity of the unit of government, including citizens at large, representatives of public interest groups, and members of minority groups. They should ensure that elections represent a "fair fight" and reflect the citizens' views. No partisan data should be used to assign districts. NC has had 16 redistricting lawsuits since 2000. That is because we keep trying to use methods that result from motivations that lack integrity. The classic criteria for good districts are that they be: compact, convenient, contiguous, and reflect communities of interest. They should provide for partisan fairness and respect boundaries of municipalities and counties. I am tired of having hard-earned tax money go toward legal fees to defend sham voting districts. And I am not alone: Only 18% of voters approve of paying for lawsuits to defend laws that are ultimately overturned by the courts, and only 22% of voters approve of the job the General Assembly is doing. The reason these statistics are not compelling is that our gerrymandered districts prevent us from truly having a voice in electing our legislators. It is time for that to stop.
401		Jul 27 2017 3:21PM	Mr. David Wear	The Supreme Court has already ruled in this case. North Carolinian citizens need to know that their votes are not already selected out, or in, making their voices moot, finally. We need Fair Maps Now. Not after the next election, or the one after that! The Republicans dragging their feet to actually follow through with the demands of the Supreme Court would be shocking, were it not coming from the same people who have been subverting our current elected Governor, and have done so much to harm this State's business communities with bathroom bills, and the list of damaging measures now written in to law that will be with us for a long time. Let the people choose their elected officials, and end politicians picking their own voters. The current Gerrymandered voting districts de-legitimizes our current legislature, and they should not feel proud of their actions, and seek to return fairness, accountability, and a real one person/ one vote.
402		Jul 27 2017 3:22PM	Ms. BJ Causey	This should be done by a non-partisan group -- no politicians! The gerrymandering in this State is horrible. This General Assembly has taken it to a whole new level. They are using the fact that they have a veto-proof majority to punish the Governor, the Attorney General, the Secretary of State and democratic districts. This is wrong on so very many levels. I am sick of hearing people say, "Democrats did it when they were in power." Yes, they did and it was wrong then too!!!

403		Jul 27 2017 3:22PM	Mrs. Lynn Bennett	A group of judges met in Durham earlier this spring to discuss ways for redistricting fair. Having listened to and observed the results of their work, it is apparent that non-partisan redistricting is not only possible but also not difficult. North Carolina has failed in the past but now has the opportunity to lead the way for other states by doing the right thing, the thing most voters want, and that is to do away with gerrymandering. Imagine having a citizenship whose every vote actually is meaningful. Stop gerrymandering. Enlist non-partisan redistricting now.
404		Jul 27 2017 3:23PM	Ms. Janice Siebert	For the sake of one person - one vote, please draw the maps free from partisan politics. Fair, NOT GERRYMANDERED, districts are the only basis of representative government!
405		Jul 27 2017 3:27PM	Ms. Sarah Haman	I want tne redistricting to be nonpartisan.
406		Jul 27 2017 3:30PM	Becky Kelley	Redistricting should be nonpartisan and follow something like the Iowa criteria - districts of equal population compact, contiguous, and observing county and municipal boundaries where possible. To continue allowing maps to be drawn to favor one party disenfranchises citizens of our state of their votes. This is a gross misdeed for any democracy.
407		Jul 27 2017 3:40PM	Mr. Bryson Palmer	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disregard the political affiliation and race of voters 2. Disregard the location of any sitting member of the legislature 3. Strive for a compact shape of the district's boundaries 4. Respect the natural economic affiliation of communities, i.e. rural western NC counties have little in common with the counties surrounding Charlotte. 5. Try to have a district's boundaries not cut across county lines
408		Jul 27 2017 3:43PM	Mrs. Lee Lumpkin	Our legislative districts should be drawn in a non-partisan manner without the previous attempts to isolate certain populations unfairly. The citizens of our state deserve a equal opportunity for their voices to be heard in Raleigh.
409		Jul 27 2017 3:43PM	Ms. Mary Brooks	I believe it is my right as a citizen to have the opportunity to select my leaders no matter the color of my skin or my political party. The leaders should not be selecting their voters. I believe this to be morally wrong and not the intention of our forefathers. Please return this right to ALL citizens of our state.
410		Jul 27 2017 3:44PM	Brenda Plemmons	We deserve to be free from gerrymandering which has been put in place for decades! Our Republic and we the people have a right to a fair and unbiased voting system. Fix our maps!
411		Jul 27 2017 3:47PM	Ms. Christina Stableford	Please, please save all of us from more law suits and establish fair, non-partisan voting maps that have sound geographic integrity. Candidates who can't achieve victory through a fair elections process don't deserve to be elected.
412		Jul 27 2017 3:54PM	Ms. Alice Snell	PLEASE PLEASE redraw the voting maps to be NON PARTISAN so we can have fair elections! Make NC a beacon for freedom and justice instead of continuing with an unconstitutional, overtly biased process designed by and for power hungry politicians.
413		Jul 27 2017 3:56PM	Ms. Jillian Robson	Put the Democratic election process back in place. A bipartisan majority want fair redistricting maps drawn up. Free of artificial constraints such as race, party, ethnicity, language culture etc ALL INCLUSIVE! Everyone is entitled to vote for the person of their choice. Not vice versa. We have enough threats to the country with Russia's cyber hacking. We do not need to make the US more divided and vulnerable. Do we want TRUE PATRIOTS leading our country or GREED inspired lunatics lured and bought out by BIG money. Citizens United has also broken down voters choice. Restrictive Voter Rights legislation is also weakening the election process. These ALL need to be addressed as a A WHOLE to regain balance in a population that is roughly balanced progressive and conservative.
414		Jul 27 2017 3:56PM	Mr. Charles Gilmore	If anyone on this committee is interested in fairness of competing ideas for true democracy these will be computer generated maps based solely on population distribution without regard to race, ethnicity, social status, wealth or political affiliation. This is the only way to strengthen our state and nation.
415		Jul 27 2017 4:01PM	Mr. Leslie Lee	In considering redistricting, please: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disregard the political affiliation and race of voters 2. Disregard the location of any sitting member of the legislature 3. Strive for a compact shape of the district's boundaries 4. Respect the natural economic affiliation of communities, i.e. rural western NC counties have little in common with the counties surrounding Charlotte. 5. Try to have a district's boundaries not cut across county lines
416		Jul 27 2017 4:03PM	Ms. Laura Goodwin	I could not feel more strongly that fair districting is essential to our democracy. It is irrelevant which party is in power; the districting should be fair at all times. There are many things we disagree about in this country, and I think the problems that we are going to face in the years ahead are far beyond the Wisdom of Solomon, let alone me. But I think the right place to start is to say - fair is fair. This is who we are. These are our numbers.
417		Jul 27 2017 4:10PM	Mr. Joseph Hardin	I am tired of feeling disenfranchised by the General Assembly. A 10 to 3 majority of districts is blatantly undemocratic. The majority in power now has made a mockery of our state. They don't legislate. They dictate. They discriminate. They don't want more people to vote. They want fewer--mainly the poor and elderly. It's time to do what is right--a bipartisan redrawing of the voting districts.
418		Jul 27 2017 4:13PM	Mrs. Barbara Coulson	Find something in your brain that tells you that the 'in' group will someday be the 'out group, and you won't like it as you didn't like it before. Let's save the State and both sides money by forming an INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION. Both sides should embrace a policy that makes for a level playing field.

419		Jul 27 2017 4:21PM	Mrs. Dawn Larma	We need an independent non partisan commission to draw districts that are neither racially or partisan gerrymandering. Too many people have votes that are essentially wasted. That is not democracy.
420		Jul 27 2017 4:21PM	Dr. Elizabeth Bates	NC needs an independent redistricting commission!
421		Jul 27 2017 4:25PM	Linda Spallone	I would like to see the legislative districts drawn in an orderly nonpartisan way. Both democrats and republicans have taken advantage of the gerrymandering idea but it is time to let that be bygones and do the people of this state a real service and not monkey around with our votes. Ideally you would take the work from the nonpartisan judges that presented a nonpartisan map of the states. I am also open to the idea that we draw larger districts have assign multiple representatives to each on a numeric basis. I just ask that both parties be open to nonpartisan ship. Stop being partiison please both parties. I would like to see open primaries also as I am open to voting for either party as I am independent. Neither party has served the people very well. Thank you for listening
422		Jul 27 2017 4:30PM	Ms. Carol Leung	The government of North Carolina owes it's citizens free and fair elections. It's time for voting maps that are free from partisan politics.
423		Jul 27 2017 4:34PM	Mr. RALEIGH STOUT	Over the past two years I learned about a computerized redistricting approach that covered the entire state of NC and it seemed pretty fair to me without all the drunk etch-a-sketch lines that Arnold Scharzenegger spoke about in the past. That kind of approach that gives equal land mass or equal population mass seems to be a good start without bringing in party affiliation or race into it. Party affiliation and race can be considered after the fact as a kind of check to balance the overall effort and make tweaks to keep it fair before finally deciding on the redistricting.
424		Jul 27 2017 4:38PM	Ms. Donna Ambriano	I demand a bipartisan committee redraw the maps, not someone who's already proven their willingness to gerrymander the state for one party. I want fair maps so mv candidates aet a fair shake.
425		Jul 27 2017 4:39PM	Bjorn Pedersen	Just do proportional representation. Then you won't even have to make districts. Less work for you, fairer elections for us. Win-win.
426		Jul 27 2017 4:47PM	Mr. Saul Chase	I support the state of North Carolina setting up Independent Commissions to determine fair boundaries for State Legislative and Congressional elections in North Carolina. With gerrymandering, elected officials pick their voters. It must become the other way around. When elections stop being fair, democracy ends. Please, make North Carolina's election districts fair. Nothing less than our democracy's survival depends on it.
427		Jul 27 2017 4:56PM	Anne Hummel	In North Carolina, we need a non-partisan process for redistricting at the state and local level. Gerrymandered districts force my vote and those of my neighbors in Greensboro to be unequal to votes of others, because African Americans and many many other registered democrats have been strategically packed together in every stste and local voting district we are a part of. This situation in NC has already been ruled on by the US Supreme Court and found to be unconstitutional, and now it's time for the General Assembly to assume its responsibility to provide an immediate remedy. It's high time the NC Gen. Assembly abide by the rule of law and finally vote to have non-partisan redistricting, without further delay.
428		Jul 27 2017 4:57PM	Mr. Robert Libbey	I would ask that redistricting be done by a non partisan committee.
429		Jul 27 2017 5:03PM	Mrs. Patricia Harms	We need an independent commission to draw maps for elections. Study other states who have done this. Wouldn't you rather win legitimately than by rigging the system? North Carolina has a rigged system. Look at Iowa.... other states that have gone the way of independent redistricting.
430		Jul 27 2017 5:09PM	Patricia Phelps	It is critical that our voting process is as fair as possible and that results truly represent the will of the people. Voting districts must be drawn in such a way so as not to favor one political party or the other. Having the districts drawn by a non-partisan committee is much needed.
431		Jul 27 2017 5:16PM	Ms. liz agnello	I want voting maps drawn free from partisan politics. enough of this gerrymandering
432		Jul 27 2017 5:25PM	Carole Covington	Thank you for the opportunity to make comments on redistricting. Please end gerrymandering! Please support voting maps that are free from partisan politics. When redistricting is used to suppress, in effect, the votes of any group, it is wrong and unconstitutional. I am keenly aware that some states have been busy trying to suppress the votes of students, the poor, and African-Americans. Such suppression is immoral. Please end gerrymandering, and lend your support to policies that oppose such vote suppression.
433		Jul 27 2017 5:27PM	Ms. Jane Yokoyama	It would be great to have public meetings on this issue. I strongly support a nonpartisan redistricting commission that creates districts that follow county boundaries as much as possible and are contiguous. I support one introduced by Tom Ross or similar the methods they use in California or Ohio. Anything is better than what is in place now! Thank you!
434		Jul 27 2017 5:27PM	Cory Stephenson	In lawfully drawing new maps, as the SCOTUS said you must, get Hofeller out of the process. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to see the bias he has and the injustice of denying both parties FAIR & EQUAL contributions to the redistricted map.
435		Jul 27 2017 5:41PM	Rick Stone	Redistricting maps need to be designed free of partisan considerations so they are competitive.

436		Jul 27 2017 5:45PM	Cindy Goodspeed	Please draw up Fair Maps that are population not partisan based.
437		Jul 27 2017 5:51PM	Dr. Samuel Speciale	Please follow the "Iowa Model" for drawing district lines.
438		Jul 27 2017 6:01PM	Ms. Armstrong Pillow	Hello, Legislator, As an unaffiliated voter with great interest in the common good, I am clear that we must have a non-partisan commission to draw legislative districts that are fair to all. I do not think either of the two major parties can manage to be fair--certainly not the present Legislature. Honestly, the North Carolina Legislature's behavior has brought up feelings of embarrassment for me, but more importantly, we want redistricting done with an independent body.
439		Jul 27 2017 6:02PM	Dr. Minta Phillips	Please redraw our state's voting maps free of partisan influence. Let us be a true democracy and promote fair voting districts. Be a true statesman and not a devisive, conniving politician. Thanks for doing the right thing.
440		Jul 27 2017 6:18PM	Ms. Colleen OHalloran	I want to go on record stating that the voting maps should drawn without the influence of partisan politics. They should be drawn completely separate and free from it!
441		Jul 27 2017 6:20PM	Catherine Bukowy	Redistricting should not be left to the "party in charge" at the time of the Decennial Census. There are far more efficient and neutral ways to get the job done. No party is neutral. Legislative redistricting should be done by an independent, nonpartisan group. The process of redistricting should be completely transparent. End the gerrymandering. Make citizens' votes count.
442		Jul 27 2017 6:39PM	Mrs. Dorothea Stewart	1. Disregard the political affiliation and race of voters 2. Disregard the location of any sitting member of the legislature 3. Strive for a compact shape of the district's boundaries 4. Respect the natural economic affiliation of communities, i.e. rural western NC counties have little in common with the counties surrounding Charlotte. 5. Try to have a district's boundaries not cut across county lines
443		Jul 27 2017 6:43PM	Mr. Andy Simmons	I don't trust the NC Legislature to be able to be impartial where redistricting is concerned. Redistricting absolutely needs to happen, but it needs to be done by an impartial body with no party affiliations or predispositions. Please obtain the services of a neutral body to redraw the voting districts in NC and free us from gerrymandering. Put the power to choose back into the hands of the people of NC.
444		Jul 27 2017 6:49PM	Mr. kent swenson	Country before party.
445		Jul 27 2017 6:49PM	Mr. Charles Bennett	follow the Duke model--2 teams each made up of 2 Dems & @ Repubs--go by Federal guidelines--one team goes East to West and the other goes West to East, then compare the two and make fair tweaks. This isn't hard and you know it! Do the right thing and support Democracy.
446		Jul 27 2017 6:55PM	Katherine Rowe	Redistrict now, save taxpayers the expense of defending a losing case in court.
447		Jul 27 2017 7:09PM	Dr. Larry King	Draw districts that (1) adhere to all requirements of the Voting Rights Act, (2) do not favor an incumbent or political party, (3) reflect the whole-county rule, and (4) are compact and contiguous.
448		Jul 27 2017 7:10PM	Mr. Ray Batts	Please redraw all districts along county lines. It makes zero sense to have districts that carve up counties.
449		Jul 27 2017 7:16PM	Ms. Carol Capehart	I am in support of fair nonpartisan redistricting.
450		Jul 27 2017 7:27PM	Ms. Sally Moseley	I want maps to be drawn that are fair, accurate, and non-partisan. I would prefer that they be drawn by someone with no history of political partisanship, and preferably someone with no ties to North Carolina. We need a fresh and fair start with new maps!
451		Jul 27 2017 7:34PM	Diane Vaught	We need to give the vote back to the people and end this unfair redistricting now!
452		Jul 27 2017 7:52PM	Suzanne Hidore	I want maps redrawn free of partisan politics! North Carolina is a disgrace to the nation. Redraw voting maps in a fair way.
453		Jul 27 2017 7:52PM	judith price	Please leave politics out of assigning voter districts. It should be nonpartisan for both parties.
454		Jul 27 2017 7:57PM	darcie smith	Please re-draw the districts without partisan politics in play. Be adults, hurry up, and do your job for all the people of North Carolina, not your party.
455		Jul 27 2017 8:03PM	Ms. Heather Minchew	The people who illegally and unconstitutionally produced the current maps through racial gerrymandering should have NO place in creating the new maps. They have already proven that they cannot be trusted and will not act in the voters' best interest. Rather, an independent, non-partisan redistricting committee should lead this process to ensure we have fair maps that give equal voting power to ALL North Carolinians.
456		Jul 27 2017 8:17PM	Mrs. Elizabeth Caveny	Our present legislative districts are set up to be anything but fair. Both Republicans and Democrats have both used redistricting to their advantage when they were in power. It is time to stop the political maneuvering and to set up fair, non-partisan districts that will much more truly give the people of North Carolina a chance for their voices to be heard. Do what's right for our state, not what is politically expedient for you or your party.
457		Jul 27 2017 8:27PM	Ms. Susan Ferguson	Please do the maps using an independent group of people so that it is done fairly for all the people of NC. Understand that more and more voters are registering unaffiliated so they need a well rounded district in which to vote.
458		Jul 27 2017 8:34PM	Ms. Scott Pope	Please, we need voting maps that reflect the views of All the people of this beautiful state. Please allow non-partisan drawing of the voting district maps. Thank you, Scott Pope

459		Jul 27 2017 8:43PM	Mr. Thomas Clayton	I believe it is essential that North Carolina establish a nonpartisan commission to determine voting districts for all Federal congressional and State legislative offices.
460		Jul 27 2017 8:48PM	Mr. Lee Harrison	North Carolina needs to use a nonpartisan commission to draw all legislative districts. I am in favor of House Bill 200. Thank you.
461		Jul 27 2017 9:07PM	Mr. Richard Partridge	Redistricting in North Carolina MUST be accomplished by at least a bi-partisan committee, but better still, a NON-PARTISAN committee! It is the ONLY way to assure fair elections in this state, regardless of party affiliation.
462		Jul 27 2017 9:22PM	Anne Dahle	Please redraw limnes asap
463		Jul 27 2017 9:25PM	Karen Ron	Seems like you're dragging your feet on redistricting. Need to focus on correcting injustices. Play fairly!
464		Jul 27 2017 9:26PM	Ms. Rebecca Johnson	I am ashamed of my North Carolina & being in a State that has committed some of the worst Gerrymandering of Districts of all the States, strictly to influence the GOP votes. Everyone should have plenty of nearby precincts, and disenfranchising the low income, elderly, minorities, uneducated is something that has to be corrected as soon as you all get off your high horses and decide to run a fair race. Your voters will remember this atrocity & we, the people have the power in our vote to kick you all out of office. This is unconstitutional and you know that. We are watching you. I am very savvy about politics and I have never in my long life seen such disgraceful behavior from our elected officials. Get to work and do your job in a fair & compassionate manner.
465		Jul 27 2017 9:30PM	Andrew Dodds	How about we try NOT gerrymandering the districts just one time? It might even work better.
466		Jul 27 2017 9:36PM	Ms. JANE WATSON	Supporting Bill 200? creating a non/bi-partisan commission. In any event, with or without it, no district-drawing on partisan basis -- most definitely no engagement of map-drawers who are connected with either party, such as Republicans employed in their maps conceived since 2010 census. Conduct of that kind has created something akin to a new civil war within this state. STOP IT!
467		Jul 27 2017 9:50PM	Mr. john harris	I am writing in support of setting up Independent Commissions to draw fair voting maps in North Carolina. Gerrymandering flies in the face of democracy.
468		Jul 27 2017 9:53PM	Ted STORCK	Please redraw legislative districts in a nonpartisan manner so that each voters vote carries the same weight in determining our legislative representation. Adoption of House Bill 200 would restore our faith in the NC Legislature.
469		Jul 27 2017 10:16PM	Julianne Fontenoy	We should have maps drawn in a fair and free way with no influence from partisan politics. Of course. This is a democracy, last I checked. Please keep it as one!
470		Jul 27 2017 10:25PM	Mr. James Rowen	I would like to see North Carolina adopt a nonpartisan redistricting process. I believe the districts as they stand now are overtly gerrymandered.
471		Jul 27 2017 10:28PM	Ms. Hannah Lomas	I would like the North Carolina Legislature to adopt a nonpartisan redistricting process to help fix the extremely gerrymandered and unconstitutional districts.
472		Jul 27 2017 11:04PM	Mr. Shaun Kime	I wish to see a redistricting process that is fair and impartial, does not target race or class, and maximizes the value of one person's vote so that it is equally weighted to the value of others.
473		Jul 27 2017 11:08PM	Ms. Janine Rouson	I think this should get done very quickly and we should move toward a non-partisan process for drawing districts. For now, the courts have ruled and the actions need to be taken quickly to have new elections based on the newly drawn districts. Redistricting should be fair and nonpartisan
474		Jul 27 2017 11:21PM	Ron Kiviniemi	I would like nonpartisan redistricting done by an independent commission.
475		Jul 27 2017 11:54PM	Dr. Reed Altman	Win at all costs politics has gone from eroding to decaying your constituents' faith in governance. Where is the accountability? In the absence of fairness in a system, people will eventually become desperate. I am scared that the very fabric of society that holds us together as North Carolinians is starting to tear. Voting should be made fair before this tipping point is reached. Please take the moral high ground and adopt a solution such as HB 200 NOW to solve the redistricting problem in a comprehensive, sustainable & non-partisan way.
476		Jul 28 2017 12:03AM	Mrs. Nan Chase	Please serve this great state best by appointing an independent redistricting commission. I am a registered Independent and I vote. Thank you.
477		Jul 28 2017 12:21AM	Mr. Emmett Casey	I would like to see non-partisan, fair, equitable redistricting. Asking the same man to redistrict who did an unfair partisan job the last time is not in the spirit of the Court's anti-gerrymandering judgement.
478		Jul 28 2017 12:31AM	Ms. Katherine Vilas	I want to see an independent bipartisan body redraw the boundaries. I want to see the state represented by senators and representatives who very closely match the split between democrat and republican, not this criminally gerrymandered trash they gave us.
479		Jul 28 2017 4:09AM	Ann Brady	It is time to set up an independent redistricting process. Let the voters pick their representatives, not the other way around! Certainly seeing how the courts have ruled shows what NC is doing is NOT RIGHT! PLEASE allow fair redistricting to proceed.
480		Jul 28 2017 5:55AM	Mrs. Elayne Martin	Please make the redistricting process fair and representative of us citizens. Partisanship has no place in this process. Respectfully requesting fair voting maps and elections as soon as possible.
481		Jul 28 2017 6:26AM	Ms. Rebecca Nussbaum	Please have an independent body redistrict NC. This should not be a partisan issue but rather an impartial expectation.
482		Jul 28 2017 6:33AM	Dr. Patricia Bowery	Please redraw all the districts in a nonpartisan manner.

483		Jul 28 2017 6:45AM	Dr. Jenny Lynn Hinson	It's embarrassing that NC continues to make news for our illegally drawn districts, and I'm angry that the same folks who manipulated our districts before continue to hold meetings in secret & delay. We need urgent, transparent action. We need districts that are contiguous, along geographic boundaries. We need the folks drawing them to put state & country above party.
484		Jul 28 2017 7:03AM	Dr. Elizabeth Mannshardt	I am a concerned NC citizen and I am commenting today to ask that the legislative redistricting process be carried out in a nonpartisan manner, ideally by an independent commission and with the opportunity for the public to comment on the final district map. The issue of nonpartisan redistricting is fundamentally about preserving our democracy. Both Democrats and Republicans won statewide races in the last election, and assessments indicate that the voters in North Carolina are fairly evenly split. In contrast, whenever elections were based on districts, the scale leaned very heavily towards Republicans: 10 vs 3 for NC representatives in the U.S. house and veto-proof majorities in both the state house and the state senate. Any process that is designed to favor some voices or opinions over others is fundamentally undemocratic and goes against the spirit of the NC and US constitutions. Section 2 of article I of the state constitution states "All political power is vested in and derived from the people; all government of right originates from the people, is founded upon their will only, and is instituted solely for the good of the whole." The current districts do not represent a government originating from the will of the people and the legislature needs to design truly fair and representative districts when the draw new maps. Attempts at gerrymandering for the purpose of gaining a political advantage are unconstitutional, short sighted, and undermine our core democratic principles for temporary political advantage. The issues faced by this state will change. The demographics of this state will change. However, once lost, democracy is very hard to regain.
485		Jul 28 2017 7:32AM	Ms. Stephanie Holland	I encourage those in charge of the redistributing in NC to make it a bipartisan effort that is done in a democratic fashion.
486		Jul 28 2017 7:38AM	Nan Cummins	Current gerrymandered plan is in the courts, so you hire the same guy who designed that plan to redesign it? What are you thinking?! You can't get away with that.
487		Jul 28 2017 7:44AM	Mrs. Jennifer Lietzke	I am a concerned NC citizen and I am commenting today to ask that the legislative redistricting process be carried out in a nonpartisan manner, ideally by an independent commission and with the opportunity for the public to comment on the final district map. The issue of nonpartisan redistricting is fundamentally about preserving our democracy. Both Democrats and Republicans won statewide races in the last election, and assessments indicate that the voters in North Carolina are fairly evenly split. In contrast, whenever elections were based on districts, the scale leaned very heavily towards Republicans: 10 vs 3 for NC representatives in the U.S. house and veto-proof majorities in both the state house and the state senate. Any process that is designed to favor some voices or opinions over others is fundamentally undemocratic and goes against the spirit of the NC and US constitutions. Section 2 of article I of the state constitution states "All political power is vested in and derived from the people; all government of right originates from the people, is founded upon their will only, and is instituted solely for the good of the whole." The current districts do not represent a government originating from the will of the people and the legislature needs to design truly fair and representative districts when they draw new maps. Attempts at gerrymandering for the purpose of gaining a political advantage are unconstitutional and short sighted in that they are undermining our core democratic principles for temporary political advantage. The issues faced by this state will change. The demographics of this state will change. However, once lost, democracy is very hard to regain.
488		Jul 28 2017 7:59AM	Jody Smith	The partisan redistricting going on in North Carolina and elsewhere for far too long must stop! It is undemocratic. I urge you to conduct the redistricting process in a way that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disregards the political affiliation and race of voters 2. Disregards the location of any sitting member of the legislature 3. Strives for a compact shape of the district's boundaries 4. Respects the natural economic affiliation of communities, i.e. rural western NC counties have little in common with the counties surrounding Charlotte. 5. Tries to have a district's boundaries not cut across county lines
489		Jul 28 2017 8:10AM	Mr. Tom Fehsenfeld	Nothing destroys confidence in our political system like the belief that the game is rigged I prevents thoughtful discussion of social issues because everything seems partisan. You have the power in your hands to make sure that the make up of the general assembly reflects the way people actually vote. Please make it happen.assembly match
490		Jul 28 2017 8:21AM	Barbara Driscoll	We need to have fair voting districts that represent the people who live in those districts. Get this done in an impartial and fair way.
491		Jul 28 2017 9:03AM	Mr. David Wright	The redistricting process should be handled by a third party with more fairness and less bias. Utilizing Thomas Hofeller again is a mistake. His districts were found to be illegal, and he should no longer have a part in the process.

492		Jul 28 2017 9:03AM	Mr. Jeffrey Gordon	The Legislature should not be in the business/practice of districting/redistricting. This should be left to independent, non-partisan bodies. The reasons are obvious - partisan districting doesn't serve anyone except the incumbent. It is nearly impossible to remove the biases that would naturally exist by asking an incumbent to draw a district. And, with a goal of having MORE voter participation, not less, districts should fairly represent the distribution of voters... a task more efficiently and effectively done by an outside entity that specializes in such tasks.
493		Jul 28 2017 9:25AM	Ms. Rebecca Crandall	<p>The Independent Redistricting Commission shall revise the Senate / House / Congressional districts so that, to the extent possible, those districts meet the following goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Districts shall comply with the United States Constitution and the United States voting rights act; • Congressional districts shall have equal population to the extent practicable, and state legislative districts shall have equal population to the extent practicable; <p>Districts shall be geographically compact and contiguous to the extent practicable;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District boundaries shall respect Communities of Interest to the extent practicable; • To the extent practicable, district lines shall use visible geographic features, city, town and county boundaries, and undivided census tracts; • To the extent practicable, competitive districts should be favored where to do so would create no significant detriment to the other goals; • Districts in the State may NOT be established with the major purpose of diluting the voting strength of any person, or group, including any political party, except as necessary to comply with the requirements of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. • The place of residence of any incumbent or political candidate shall not be considered in the creation of a map. Districts shall not be drawn for the purpose of favoring or discriminating against an incumbent, political candidate, or political party. <p>As used herein, a "Community of Interest" is a contiguous population which shares common social and economic interests that should be</p>
494		Jul 28 2017 9:25AM	Mr. Patrick Turner	Please adopt a non-paratisan methodology for your redistricting efforts. All gerrymandering, not just race-based gerrymandering is a form of voter suppression and is inimical to a functioning democracy. Developing districts that are as competitive as possible makes you, our representatives accountable to the people, which is as it should be. Incorporating nonpartizan practice into law for redistricting will serve the current majority when the inevitable time comes that it is no longer in power and would otherwise be subject to unfair and unrepresentative district drawing from the other side.
495		Jul 28 2017 9:32AM	jeff bohan	Everybody should have the right to vote and every bodies vote should count. I am demanding fair voting maps and fair elections. Protect voting rights and end gerrymandering now! Get rid of Kris Kobach's Cross check once and for all as well!
496		Jul 28 2017 9:41AM	Ms. Regina George	Voting districts should be determined solely on population. Any consideration of Partisan politics such as race or income is distinctly against the intentions of our constitution and the basic principles of democracv. Please be American! Thank you.
497		Jul 28 2017 9:43AM	Ms. Nancy Bradley	It's time for North Carolina to have fair and nonpartisan districts. North Carolina citizens need to have real choices when it comes to election time. Our state will be stronger when all sides work together rather than one party being in control. Please draw up maps with fair and nonpartisan districts
498		Jul 28 2017 9:50AM	Mr. Russ Root	I am in support of setting up Independent Commissions to draw fair voting maps in North Carolina. I demand that our legislators do the right thing and stop Gerrymandering to allow unfair elections.
499		Jul 28 2017 9:57AM	Shannon Wymer	I want districts that make sense and are fair. I want to be able to elect a representative that has my interests in mind. Right now, we have districts that encompass part of Furham all the way to Lee County. That isn't fair for anyone. The needs of Durham are vastly different from the rural areas.
500		Jul 28 2017 10:04AM	Susan London	I think you need to do your jobs instead of hemming and hawing about the redistricting ordered by the court to correct the obvious, partisan gerrymandering of our state. Forcing your agenda on residents of this state by stacking the deck in your favor is absolutely antithetical to what our country was founded on. It's wrong, and this constituent wants it fixed!
501		Jul 28 2017 10:16AM	James Hawk	<p>Keeping this short: The redistricting process must be carried out in a nonpartisan manner by an independent commission.</p> <p>There must be an opportunity for the public to comment on the final district map.</p> <p>I consider this to be a fundamental issue in ensuring our democracy. The technology available today and advancing in the future creates an environment in which the elected choose their voters. Keep in mind that you legislators work for for us, the citizens of North Carolina.</p> <p>Thank you!</p>

502		Jul 28 2017 10:17AM	Mrs. Hazel Poolos	I am watching as you re-draw the illegally gerrymandered voting districts. I want districts that are contiguous, with boundaries that are geographic rather than drawn with the intent of diluting votes from either party.
503		Jul 28 2017 10:24AM	Mrs. Christine Sashegyi	Redistrict in a way to represent the PEOPLE to vote in their candidate, not the candidate choosing the people. It is not American, and it is not constitutional. This rip off of the American voting system has got to end. Right now, I don't feel represented, and not one of my representatives, federal or state, feels the need to listen to anything I say, all my requests and letters and emails can be ignored because I have no voice, no one to listen to me. How is that American? We are supposed to be represented in this country whether the person in office is your party or not. Time to take redistricting out of politics and leave it up to independent boards to draw the lines. Time to take it away from political affiliation, race, ridiculous drawings of districts--keep it more as a block i.e., county, and area appropriate.
504		Jul 28 2017 10:29AM	Mrs. Maria Butts	House Speaker Tim Moore & Senate Pro Tem Phil Berger, Please let HB200 and SB209 be given a vote. We need non-partisan redistributing.
505		Jul 28 2017 10:33AM	Mrs. Laura Ingram	The redistricting process should be completed by an independent, non-partisan entity so that we avoid the targeting of minorities "with near-surgical precision." We most certainly do not need Hofeller involved in the process again. The process should be completely transparent.
506		Jul 28 2017 10:38AM	Craig Sherwin	Gerrymandering has harmed the governance in North Carolina and twisted the will of the people for far too long. It goes back generations and has harmed Republican voices in the state more than it's harmed Democrat. It's time to set partisanship aside and establish governance that reflects the will of the people and not party bosses. North Carolina needs an independent redistricting commission isolated from party influence
507		Jul 28 2017 10:38AM	Mrs. Hilda A. Highfill	Too many voters in NC have been not had their votes counted fairly because some voting districts were not drawn impartially. It was 2011--six years ago--that the maps that included state legislative and congressional districts were found by federal courts to include unconstitutional gerrymanders! NOW is the time to correct these errors and redraw corrective maps without further delay! To do otherwise is to delay justice to those N. C. voters whose rights have been infringed upon. This is the first, vital step toward restitution! Thank you for your prompt vote to redraw the unfair districts without further delay. Sincerely,
508		Jul 28 2017 10:49AM	Mrs. Stacey Stallings	I think that the real voter fraud is Gerrymandering. I think that its far past time for our voting districts to be redrawn FAIRLY not only across NC but our entire country. The districts should be redrawn and there should be laws prohibiting this from ever happening again. When our right to fairly elect our officials is taken away that is the most un-American, illegal injustice I can think of. As a person of color and female I feel that my right has just been so recently given to me to be taken away again by back-door politicking and and manipulation. This is injustice at its very core. #FairlyBeDrawnTheLinesNOW!!
509		Jul 28 2017 10:50AM	Ms. Gail Waldeck	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disregard the political affiliation and race of voters 2. Disregard the location of any sitting member of the legislature 3. Strive for a compact shape of the district's boundaries 4. Respect the natural economic affiliation of communities, i.e. rural western NC counties have little in common with the counties surrounding Charlotte. 5. Try to have a district's boundaries not cut across county lines
510		Jul 28 2017 10:52AM	Ms. Alexandra Dilworth	I strongly encourage the legislature to base the voting districts based on sensible geography and population numbers and not on partisan politics, nor with any racial/ethnic bias to who lives in a district. Please consider the true meaning of a democratic government when drawing lines for districts

511		Jul 28 2017 10:53AM	Ms. Aylett Colston	<p>The redistricting of North Carolina’s State House and State Senate districts should be accomplished as quickly as possible using an unbiased process and impartial, fair redistricting criteria that excludes the use of partisan data (and that specifically does not allow using the address of incumbents).</p> <p>Specifically, the Redistricting Committe should revise the senate and house districts so that those districts meet the following goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Districts shall comply with the United States Constitution and the United States Voting Rights Act; • Congressional districts shall have equal population to the extent practicable, and state legislative districts shall have equal population to the extent practicable; • Districts shall be geographically compact and contiguous to the extent practicable; • District boundaries shall respect Communities of Interest (as defined below) to the extent practicable; • To the extent practicable, district lines shall use visible geographic features, city, town and county boundaries, and undivided census tracts; • Competitive districts should be favored where to do so would create no significant detriment to the other goals; • Districts in the State may NOT be established with the major purpose of diluting the voting strength of any person, or group, including any political party. • The place of residence of any incumbent or political candidate shall not be considered in the creation of a map. Districts shall not be drawn for the purpose of favoring or discriminating against any incumbent, political candidate, or political party. <p>As used herein, a “Community of Interest” is a contiguous population</p>
512		Jul 28 2017 11:07AM	Dr. Larry Wolf	<p>I urge the NCGA to adopt a plan that promotes nonpartisan election districts.</p> <p>It is time NOW to stop all forms of gerrymandering. It is possible to draw district lines without explicit or implicit racial or partisan bias.</p> <p>DO IT NOW.</p>
513		Jul 28 2017 11:18AM	Mrs. Beth Harvat	<p>I am writing to strongly urge that a non-partisan method to do redistricting be set up as soon as possible for the state of NC. In a state that is evenly divided, it is undemocratic, let alone unconstitutional, to have created gerrymandered districts that have so dramatically tipped the representative balance toward the party in power. The state has suffered seriously in light of this uneven representation and wasted much money in defending unconstitutional laws arising from extreme ideology. Restore integrity to the election process! Create a non-partisan commission to do redistricting and give them the power to do it in time to allow a special election that meets the court's requirements.</p>
514		Jul 28 2017 11:31AM	Mrs. Heather Roberts-VanSickle	<p>Please use the following to re-draw districts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disregard the political affiliation and race of voters 2. Disregard the location of any sitting member of the legislature 3. Strive for a compact shape of the district’s boundaries 4. Respect the natural economic affiliation of communities, i.e. rural western NC counties have little in common with the counties surrounding Charlotte. 5. Try to have a district's boundaries not cut across county lines
515		Jul 28 2017 11:38AM	John Rich	<p>We want voting maps drawn free from partisan politics. Please use an accountable independent commission to draw the House and Senate Districts that are fair, compact and functional by using general population demographics and without consideration to political party registration, voting history or any other partisan political criteria.</p>
516		Jul 28 2017 11:45AM	Karen Devine	<p>I believe there should be a non partisan panel to redraw the lines for the voting districts. If they can come up with a methmathical model and keep people out of it all the better. Gerrymandering has been around a long time, but it does not make it right, it tends to bring out the candidates with the most extreme views.</p> <p>Also, I would consider allowing independents vote in the primary of their choosing without having to change their party affiliation in order to do it.</p>
517		Jul 28 2017 12:00PM	Mrs. Shawn O'Neill	<p>Please re-create the district maps so that they are fair. Everyone deserves an equal say in our voting process.</p>
518		Jul 28 2017 12:05PM	Jeff Jennings	<p>I feel strongly that all voting districts need to be drawn using non-partisan processes. The current gerrymandering is not serving our voters or our state well. Reform of this system is greatly needed.</p> <p>Sincerelv. Jeff Jennings</p>
519		Jul 28 2017 12:05PM	Mr. Richard Frazer	<p>Please appoint an independent council to draw the maps for redistricting!</p>
520		Jul 28 2017 12:09PM	Gwendolyn Vila	<p>I moved to NC 3 years ago, and since that time, I have rarely felt represented in the NC General Assembly. Please use nonpartisan criteria in drawing the new districts, so that ALL North Carolinians can have their voices heard.</p>

521		Jul 28 2017 12:15PM	Dr. Cody Perkins	<p>I encourage the committee charged with redrawing North Carolina’s legislative districts to do so in a fair, non-partisan way. The courts have already ruled that the last process led to discriminatory districts, a cynical approach that devalued North Carolinians’ votes. Instead of repeating that process, please take your responsibility seriously.</p> <p>Several models exist for guiding the fair redistricting process. Reject the partisan nonsense led by consultants like Mr. Hofeller. Instead, look to non-partisan experts to help establish criteria for the new maps. Professor Moon Duchin of Tufts University has done outstanding work and helped establish efficiency models to ensure every voter’s ballot counts. Common Cause has helped lead anti-gerrymandering efforts against Democrats and Republicans, always holding the position that fair voting is more important than partisan advantage.</p> <p>Compromise is essential. Our state is nearly evenly divided between support for Democrats and Republicans. Our legislature should reflect that division and embrace the debate that ensues. We need checks and balances in our government, but at the moment we have two embattled branches wasting money on lawsuits over procedure rather than policy.</p> <p>Our state has become a joke. I grew up in Flint, Michigan, and when I tell people that, they inevitably respond with a look of concern. I get questions about corruption, lead-tainted water, and Michael Moore documentaries. More recently, when I tell people I live in North Carolina, that same look creeps into their eyes. Teaching at a boarding school, my students come from several other states and countries. The reputation of our state precedes itself in my students’ eyes. Everyone wants to know how North Carolina got to be like this.</p>
522		Jul 28 2017 12:18PM	Herbert Amey	<p>Fairness -- not political or racial gerrymandering -- should be the only criterion when drawing maps to satisfy the court's order. The voters and the federal judiciary system are watching this process carefully. You should fix the affected and adjacent districts but leave statewide redistricting until after the 2020 census. Prior to that, act on S209 and H714 and H200 to ensure future districting maps are done correctly.</p>
523		Jul 28 2017 12:37PM	Kathleen Johnson	<p>Make elections fair! Redistricting should not be done on a political basis.</p>
524		Jul 28 2017 1:01PM	Richard Wasch	<p>Nonpartisan redistributing is the only fair approach - doesn't matter if you are Republican or Democrat. Implement HB200!</p>
525		Jul 28 2017 1:04PM	Ms. Cathy Holt	<p>1. Disregard the political affiliation and race of voters</p> <p>2. Disregard the location of any sitting member of the legislature</p> <p>3. Strive for a compact shape of the district’s boundaries</p> <p>4. Respect the natural economic affiliation of communities, i.e. rural western NC counties have little in common with the counties surrounding Charlotte.</p> <p>5. Try to have a district’s boundaries not cut across county lines.</p>
526		Jul 28 2017 1:07PM	Ms. Joanne Kalp	<p>1. Disregard the political affiliation and race of voters</p> <p>2. Disregard the location of any sitting member of the legislature</p> <p>3. Strive for a compact shape of the district’s boundaries</p> <p>4. Respect the natural economic affiliation of communities, i.e. rural western NC counties have little in common with the counties surrounding Charlotte.</p> <p>5. Try to have a district’s boundaries not cut across county lines</p>
527		Jul 28 2017 1:49PM	Mrs. Dorothy Schneider	<p>1. Disregard the political affiliation and race of voters</p> <p>2. Disregard the location of any sitting member of the legislature</p> <p>3. Strive for a compact shape of the district’s boundaries</p> <p>4. Respect the natural economic affiliation of communities, i.e. rural western NC counties have little in common with the counties surrounding Charlotte.</p> <p>5. Try to have a district’s boundaries not cut across county lines</p>

528		Jul 28 2017 1:53PM	Mr. Herman Anderson	<p>The Independent Redistricting Commission shall revise the senate / house / congressional districts so that, to the extent possible, those districts meet the following goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Districts shall comply with the United States Constitution and the United States voting rights act; • Congressional districts shall have equal population to the extent practicable, and state legislative districts shall have equal population to the extent practicable; <p>Districts shall be geographically compact and contiguous to the extent practicable;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District boundaries shall respect Communities of Interest to the extent practicable; • To the extent practicable, district lines shall use visible geographic features, city, town and county boundaries, and undivided census tracts; • To the extent practicable, competitive districts should be favored where to do so <p>would create no significant detriment to the other goals;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Districts in the State may NOT be established with the major purpose of diluting the voting strength of any person, or group, including any political party, except as necessary to comply with the requirements of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. • The place of residence of any incumbent or political candidate shall not be considered in the creation of a map. Districts shall not be drawn for the purpose of favoring or discriminating against an incumbent, political candidate, or political party. <p>As used herein, a "Community of Interest" is a contiguous population which shares common social and economic interests that should be included within a single district for purposes of its effective and fair</p>
529		Jul 28 2017 1:57PM	Mr. Ricky Rawlins	<p>The citizens of North Carolina and the entire Nation are fed up with politicians gaming the system and unfairly fixing elections through gerrymandering. Stop putting political party and special interests groups as your primary concern, and use your elected office to represent all citizens in a fair, ethical manner.</p>
530		Jul 28 2017 2:03PM	Julia Bryan	<p>Redistricting and gerrymandering for racial and/or strictly partisan advantage have taken the voice away from the citizens of North Carolina and completely undermined democracy in this state. It is past time that drawing all district lines be done in a nonpartisan manner.</p>
531		Jul 28 2017 2:26PM	Susan N	<p>Thank you for inviting this feedback.</p> <p>I would like to see a nonpartisan group set the new redistricting boundaries. It is vital to be neutral with political and racial lines.</p> <p>Susan Bolton.</p>
532		Jul 28 2017 2:54PM	Mr. Kenneth Kahn	<p>This should be a given: Sensible folks do not let the fox guard the henhouse if they want to keep their chickens and their eggs. In case this is not clear, no member of the legislative bodies of North Carolina should be able to control or influence the creation and editing of districts. The conflicts of interest are blatantly clear, and the temptations are all too clearly overpowering. It is past time for the manner of district definitions to be in the hands of independent citizens who will collaboratively create fair districts that more accurately reflect the political affiliations, preferences and interests of the population of our state. These folks should truly be private citizens with no vested political interests beyond their stated political affiliations and whom should hold no public office other than this one. Their responsibility is solely to periodically manage the district definitions to ensure fairness and accurate representation. The penalty for any attempt to influence these citizens by money or coercion should be very harsh, as should any future attempt to suborn the democratic process.</p> <p>Regarding how that fairness is created by the district definitions, it is clearly a complex affair. But a place to start may be to enforce a rule that groups people geographically in such way that there are no "carve-out" areas -- e.g., that every voter in any given district live no further away from any other voter in the same district than XX miles (TBD).</p> <p>Ultimately, the proof is in the pudding, though, and should any redistricting effort result in gross misrepresentation (to be defined), emergency and timely redistricting should be ordered, without appeal, by the courts.</p> <p>Thank you for requesting our input. We look forward to restoring North Carolina's status as a representative democracy, preeminent in fairness among these United States.</p>
533		Jul 28 2017 3:10PM	Mr. Michael hi Weaver	<p>Can we ALL -- both parties -- please put NATION ahead of party, and do what is best for all this country's citizens? Winning is not Goal 1!</p>
534		Jul 28 2017 3:22PM	Mike Lumpkin	<p>It is essential that new legislative district be drawn in a non-partisan fashion. Please do what's right for the people of North Carolina, not what's advantageous to your political party.</p> <p>Thanks.</p>
535		Jul 28 2017 3:22PM	Jean Cassiy	<p>Please make sure that the redistricting lines are drawn by a non-partisan citizen committee. We are paying attention.</p>
536		Jul 28 2017 3:24PM	Mr. Greg Goodman	<p>It's time to put patriotism before party. Get redistricting done and make it fair to everyone. No more partisan maps!</p>
537		Jul 28 2017 3:27PM	John King	<p>I am absolutely appalled at the ongoing geremandering attempts by the GOP and the total disregard for the rule and spirit of the law. If you cannot win by your policies, get out of office.</p>

538		Jul 28 2017 3:40PM	Tom High	Form a nonpartisan commission, consisting of those versed in elections law, computer application, demographics, along with members of the general public. No politicians, and no one affiliated with political advocacy/policy nonprofits. Have members serve staggered terms, and be appointed by former governors Martin and Hunt during the initial process, and have new members elected by the commission itself as terms expire.
539		Jul 28 2017 3:43PM	Mr. JOHN STERLING	Fairness is what people want. Any poll you want to look at will tell you that citizens are fed up with partisan politics. They want elected officials to put PUBLIC interest ahead of partisan
540		Jul 28 2017 3:45PM	Mr. JOHN STERLING	Fairness is what people want. Any poll you want to look at will tell you that citizens are fed up with partisan politics. They want elected officials to put PUBLIC interest ahead of parties.
541		Jul 28 2017 3:56PM	Ms. Sherry Lubic	The partisan gerrymandering that has occurred in NC is unconscionable, creating unfair representation in the US House, the NC House and NC Senate. As a NC taxpayer and voter, I demand NC districts be redrawn in a nonpartisan manner.
542		Jul 28 2017 3:56PM	Mr. William Lubic	The partisan gerrymandering that has occurred in NC is unconscionable, creating unfair representation in the US House, the NC House and NC Senate. As a NC taxpayer and voter, I demand NC districts be redrawn in a nonpartisan manner.
543		Jul 28 2017 4:07PM	Ms. Heather Ferguson	We need non-partisan redistricting! The Republican drawn maps were an assault on democracy!
544		Jul 28 2017 4:07PM	Ms. Deborah Freeman	I support voting districts that are free of partisan politics. Please re-draw districts in a fair and non-partisan way. Thank you.
545		Jul 28 2017 4:19PM	Mrs. Cheryl Hayden	Please give full legal representation to the people of North Carolina. The illegal gerrymandering in our State has to stop. When the Supreme Court recognizes the inherent racism that is the reason behind the illegal drawing of voting districts, it is appalling that our General Assembly continues to flaunt the law and push through their personal agenda rather than the long term interest of their constituents. We were extremely disappointed in the General Assembly's vote against clean energy (wind farms) and education and wholly support the Governor in his bid the reinstate North Carolina as a place where business and people want to locate. Stop thie gerrymandering now or there will long term consequences for "
546		Jul 28 2017 4:19PM	Dr. Nancy Spann	I want voting maps drawn free from partisan politics. Please establish an independent nonpartisan commission to determine fair voting maps. This is the best plan for NC so that all citizens get a fair chance to choose their legislators.
547		Jul 28 2017 4:27PM	Mary Mayer	I want nonpartisan redistricting criteria used for drawing new legislative voting maps in NC. Republicans: Stop procrastinating and obstructing justice! The Supreme Court has ruled. End gerrymandering NOW. Even though North Carolina's voting population is evenly split along partisan lines, Republicans control 10 U.S. House seats compared to only three for Democrats. Using race to enforce an unfair advantage for Republicans is simply wrong.
548		Jul 28 2017 4:36PM	Ms. Mary Jones	This process must be fair and open, NOT created behind closed doors. It should be drawn up by non-partisan or at least bi-partisan mapmakers and certainly NOT by the group that made the current illegal maps. They must NOT be 'packed' either racially or by party affiliation.The maps should be created in a timely fashion...no more stalling
549		Jul 28 2017 4:42PM	Mrs. Lois Hinson	We are watching as you redraw the illegally drawn voting districts.
550		Jul 28 2017 4:48PM	Dr. Timothy Spira	I sincerely hope and trust that you will follow the recent court ruling and set up unbiased voting districts in North Carolina. To accomplish this it is essential that an independent commission be established to draw fair voting maps in our state. Thank you.
551		Jul 28 2017 4:51PM	Mr. Dean Brodhag	My preference is for the Common Cause non partisan maps of the Senate and House. They are the least biased of the all proposed, Please implement them.
552		Jul 28 2017 5:15PM	Susan Hemphill	Districts should not be drawn by which ever political party is in power at the time. There should be an impartial, statistical, and scientific analysis applied by a non-partisan agent(s). The districts should be drawn so that the elected representative is easily and equitably accessible geographically to all constituents
553		Jul 28 2017 5:35PM	Mr. Samuel Hess	I want to make it clear that I totally support setting up Independent Commissions to draw up fair voting maps in North Carolina. The fact that 40% of our state House district elections in 2016 were uncontested is disaustinaly undemocratic.
554		Jul 28 2017 5:40PM	Ms. Kirsten Kramer	I have researched Gerrymandering in great detail. As a mathematician, computer engineer, and American, I can safely say that Partisan Redistricting is over the top and needs to end! In my 50+ years of life, I have been voted as a Republican, an Independent, and a Democrat. From all points of view, I have found this practice to undermine Democracy and enhance partisan divide and insult voters. I am a strong supporter of HB200/SB209 and encourage the NCGA to take the high ground and put an end to partisan redistricting. As it stands NC is THE MOST GERRYMANDERED state! We are a laughing stock with only 7% of votes actually mattering. To call NC a democratic republic is a farce. Please remember how you felt when being blocked by Dem's and take the high road for the people. Thank you for listening and hopefully considering being stronger than the Dem's were before you.

555		Jul 28 2017 6:38PM	Ms. Linda Bennett	I request that North Carolina General Assembly' immediately move to use a non-partisan commission to fairly redistrict the entire state. This must be completely non-partisan and reflect the general population. This redistricting should not be subject to any election and be repeated as new census results are available. This should be codified as state law so that no political party can tamper with districts to enhance their power base after each election. New elections should be held in any district affected by redrawing district maps.
556		Jul 28 2017 6:43PM	Ms. Mary Endres	<p>For the sake of our Democracy and for our state, please end both racial and political gerrymandering. Both major parties have been equally 'guilty' of gerrymandering, pretty much throughout our country's history and our state's history. This is one tradition that needs to end.</p> <p>Put your duty to serve ahead of your party and your own personal ambitions. We are a diverse state and a diverse country, and make-up of our state legislature, and our representatives to the US Congress ought to proportionally reflect that diversity.</p> <p>I believe our country and our Democracy is in peril now - from within - largely as the result of gerrymandering.</p> <p>If your primary loyalty is to your party, you are in the wrong business.</p>
557		Jul 28 2017 7:27PM	Ms. Janice Garver	Please have a non-partison group redesign the legislative districts. The current shape of District 116 with McHenry in office seems ridiculous.It spans from Asheville to Gastonia. How can it be representative of the views of people ranging from such a distance in the state?
558		Jul 28 2017 7:52PM	Ms. Deborah Thurston	I am in support of setting up Independent Commissions to set up fair voting districts in NC. Gerrymandering does not result in a fair or accurate representation of your actual constituency. It is important that our General Assembly actually represent all the people of NC, not just a few.
559		Jul 28 2017 8:21PM	Robert Aldrich	I want an impartial, non-partisan council to redraw the voting districts along non-racial and non-political lines. Our gerrymandered voting directly underminjnes our state democracy and humilates North Carolina nationally. We NEED non-partisian voting districts.
560		Jul 28 2017 8:22PM	Mrs. Patricia Harms	Gerrymandering makes for unfair elections. It has had a definite negative effect on North Carolina elections. It is time to emulate states like Iowa that have independent commissions to establish districts.
561		Jul 28 2017 8:32PM	Mr. Marshall Bennett	STOP. POLITICAL. GERRYMANDERING. IF YOU'RE TOO SCARED TO RUN IN FAIR DISTRICTS, YOU SHOULD NOT BE IN OFFICE. STOP IT.
562		Jul 28 2017 9:07PM	Mr. Jeffrey Hardin	I am in favor of a non-partisan form of redistricting that respects local interests and the integrity of the democratic process. Whether Democrat or Republican, voters should choose their representatives based on ideas, not on artificially drawn lines. As it has been, representatives have chosen their voters. This is not only wrong, it is unsustainable in an open society.
563		Jul 28 2017 9:25PM	Ms. Michele Adler	I would like to see nonpartisan redistricting. North Carolina deserves fair voting maps & fair elections!
564		Jul 28 2017 11:09PM	Ms. Pamela Quattrini	We need INDEPENDTENT, NON-PARTISAN people to do this work, evenly and equally divided between the genders (all of them-maybe according to percentage of population base - you know 51% female, 43% male, 6% 'other'). Political party affiliation should not be taken into consideration.
565		Jul 28 2017 11:16PM	Christine Van Gorder	North Carolina is one of the most gerrymandered states in the country! This does not allow for a fair election. Everyone's vote needs to count, that is what true democracy is based on! Please let North Carolina be the amazing state it was meant to be! Please redistrict in a fair and even way!
566		Jul 29 2017 12:49AM	Mrs. Risa Botvinick	Not using a nonpartisan system to create Congressional and General Assembly districts has resulted in the absence of competition for seats in many districts. No competition means no accountability. Being a representative should mean being accountable to voters. Furthermore, one vote should have the same value as any other vote. I am disgusted by the creation of preposterous district lines, which reveal that districts were designed to serve the majority party, not to serve the electorate. Remedy this serious problem by adopting a nonpartisan method of drawing district maps.
567		Jul 29 2017 2:26AM	Ms. Linda Sharp	I encourage you to create districts that allow voters to pick their representatives, and not the other way around; avoid racial and partisan gerrymandering; and be fair and open. Thank you.
568		Jul 29 2017 6:25AM	Ms. Joanne McGrath	Fair redistricting determined on a strictly nonpartisan basis is absolutely essential to our democracy.
569		Jul 29 2017 6:38AM	Sharon Burkitt	Legislative disctricts in North Carolina should be drawn on as much of a grid as possible, WITHOUT CONSIDERATION WHATSOEVER to the politics or race of the residents of the district. Voters should choose the representative, not the other way around.
570		Jul 29 2017 7:56AM	Thomas Graham	I've been a citizen of NC for 66 years and a voter for 44. Please be big minded enough to set up non-partisan redistricting. End the abuse of power by whichever party has the majority when the census occurs. In the long term we will have better government if you do.

571		Jul 29 2017 8:13AM	Diane McPhail	Our voting districts have been gerrymandered in a way that enables political parties to control results. This applies to both parties. Our state must have redistricting that reflects both geographical reality and population balance in order to have fair and truly representative voting. Please work for us the people of this state to eliminate gerrymandering and to redistrict in a manner that represents the balance and fairness we deserve to have for our vote.
572		Jul 29 2017 8:16AM	Mr. William Romanelli	Stop the gerrymandering ! We need fair and honest voting regions.
573		Jul 29 2017 9:00AM	Christina van Dorsten	I am strongly in favor of non-partisan redistricting. There should be no such thing as "safe" districts for either party. Each district should be as competitive as possible to give NC residents actual choice.
574		Jul 29 2017 9:04AM	Ms. Anuja Purohit	I request that the adoption of a fair, nonpartisan methodology in drawing the district maps. In a democracy , citizens deserve to have their votes to be counted equally and not diluted by any party.
575		Jul 29 2017 9:33AM	Mrs. Kathy Lochoff	I strongly urge lawmakers to support the redistricting process that supports and open and fair drawing of political district maps that prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering and allows people to choose their political representatives.
576		Jul 29 2017 10:05AM	Ms. Susan Longerbone	Thank you Districts should be drawn with as much of a geographical grid as possible without regard to race or political affiliation. There should not be any long spikes or odd shaped districts which traverse several counties.
577		Jul 29 2017 10:29AM	Mr. Robert Hyman	Right now, North Carolina only has a semblance of Democracy, and the people have suffered because of that. The only Way back to a true and robust democracy is to draw fair and Competitive legislative districts. This will finally serve the public good. We, the people, must select our our legislators and legislators must not select their voters
578		Jul 29 2017 10:32AM	Mr. Andrew Wooster	I strongly support non-partisan optimally compact redistricting.
579		Jul 29 2017 10:56AM	albert robert rubin	thank you for your work on redistricting. the voting process is vital to the preservation of our representative form of government and should not be diluted through partisanship or bias in districting. we deserve a non-partisan process in the development of voting district lines. thank you again for your efforts in redistricting
580		Jul 29 2017 11:16AM	Mrs. Marita Gonsalves	We need voting districts that are free from partisan politics. Let us vote for our lawmakers and not the other way around!
581		Jul 29 2017 11:55AM	Bob Smith	When redistricting please use the Shortest Splitline method or a computer algorithm that creates the best districts based on compactness. Thank you.
582		Jul 29 2017 12:36PM	Mrs. Michelle Torres	I support a process for drawing political district maps that is fair and open, that avoids racial or partisan gerrymandering and allows voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around. I urge lawmakers to support a redistricting process that follows these guiding principles. Democracy is at stake!
583		Jul 29 2017 2:10PM	Mr. Lonnie Bledsoe	Make the lines follow county lines. NC has 100 counties so this shouldn't be difficult. There would be only a few cases where a County had to be split and even then it should be done with a straight line. Some of the outlawed districts are really pathetic and it doesn't take a genius to figure out why they were drawn the way they were.
584		Jul 29 2017 2:21PM	Ms. Kim Winz	I want a redistricting process that is fair and open. Partisan gerrymandering has gone much too far in recent years. As a voter in North Carolina, I will be watching!
585		Jul 29 2017 3:19PM	Mrs. Jessica McCrory	I would like to see a redistricting process that is: fair and open; avoids racial or partisan gerrymandering; and allows voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around.
586		Jul 29 2017 3:24PM	Ms. Susan Archer	We need our democracy to be reborn in the drawing of our districts. We need them to be done in a non-partisan and non-racist way. We all are hurt when we are not true to our democratic principles. It is past time for fairness to lead the way to an honest future.
587		Jul 29 2017 3:24PM	Melissa Scott	when drawing political district maps it should go without saying the districts ought to: be fair and open; avoid racial or partisan gerrymandering; and allow voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around
588		Jul 29 2017 3:32PM	Dr. Jill Slee	Independent non-partisan citizens should be in charge of creating all districts that have equal amounts of Democrats, Republicans, Independents, and the unaffiliated. Peer-reviewed scientific research should guide independent non-partisan redistricting decisions, and in fact peer-reviewed scientific research should guide decision-making in all aspects of governing and the voting process; without influence from lobbyists, wealth or financial interests, and/or reelection self-interests. Voting rights and participation should be open, transparent, unfettered, and easy for all types of folks. Nothing should be done that limits any individual voter or voting group from fully participating. In addition, means should be given to guarantee that voting in NC is free from Russian or outside manipulation, and that our personal voting information is kept 100% secure here in NC, and not given to a national Whitehouse database. Thank you.

589		Jul 29 2017 4:30PM	Mr. George Huntley	Both House and Senate, democrats and Republicans need to first agree that fair elections are the foundation for sound governing in a strong democracy. We need each representative to commit to doing the right thing and re-draw districts fairly.Lots of folks feel like the kind of opportunism at play as the current districts are drawn is unethical. Don't wait until the other party gains control, take the high road now and do the right thing
590		Jul 29 2017 4:43PM	Tim Scales	I strongly support a nonpartisan, unbiased committee to oversee redrawing of congressional districts.
591		Jul 29 2017 5:09PM	Dr. Sam Pearsall	Please cease all delaying tactics and buckle down to the people's business of redrawing NC's voting districts so that all voters, black, white and hispanic; Democratic, Republican, and independent are fairly and equally represented. Yes, it's common knowledge that the party in power has always drawn districts to their own advantage, but a history of wrongs does not make a right. Now is your chance to do the right thing!
592		Jul 29 2017 5:29PM	Susan Dodder	<p>Ordinary citizens feel they have no say in who represents them. In my former district there was absolutely no opposition for our legislator. Citizens are at the end of their patience and are frustrated with the partisan gridlock, entrenched incumbents, blatant obstructionism, power grabbing, and failure to compromise. When we consider how lawmakers, Republican or Democrat; once in power, routinely use gerrymandering to stay in power and are no longer accountable to the people.</p> <p>This state spends millions of dollars in taxpayer money for redistricting litigation. It is NOW time to end gerrymandering. I support the passage of HB200 and SB209 so that the citizens of North Carolina can know that our legislative districts are drawn fairly. The time has come to end gerrymandering and restore full democracy to our state. I urge you to support these bills.</p>
593		Jul 29 2017 7:11PM	Mrs. Lynn Pritchard	Shame on those who created and passed voter redistricting lines that were unconstitutional and illegal. Our previous governor was voted out because of ideas such as this one. I hope you got the message that the people of North Carolina won't tolerate illegal plans certain members have and try to push through. And the new lines had better be carefully and fairly done this time.
594		Jul 29 2017 7:22PM	Dr. Peter Anderson	Lynn Pritchard Essentially, districts should be drawn so that the demographics of the district are represented in the outcome of the voters. At this time, it may be best to study how districts were drawn 50 years ago as the manipulation of district boundaries has been in practice for a long time. The gerrymandering has been crystal clear to the courts and to most observers. The Republicans may be too deep into it and therefore it may also be best if an independent commission/consultant redraw the maps.
595		Jul 29 2017 10:08PM	Jennifer Rudolph	<p>Our beautiful state used to be in the headlines for the best place to raise a family, go to college, vacation, or be welcomed because of its diverse mix of old southern charm coupled with 21st century progress.</p> <p>But the national headlines today make me sad for our state. Gerrymandering, racial and partisan profiling, and lawsuits costing the North Carolinian taxpayers millions, are dominating the local and national news. We have now become “that state” where revenge politics rules and certain officials are living in the past instead of moving forward based on what is right for our future.</p> <p>The more I learn about gerrymandering the more I realize that it is the single most important issue facing North Carolina right now. Denying a vote on independent re-districting (HB200) means the elected officials in charge are worried about the effects of fair maps on the next election. Fair maps create competitive campaigns. If these officials are worried about that, then we have every right to be worried about the future of democracy in North Carolina.</p> <p>The NCGOP has shown that it can not be trusted to draw fair maps. The sheer gall they have to re-hire Dr Hofeller to re-draw the maps and NOT allow the committee full access to him shows their nefarious intent. If the courts don't demand an independent commission to draw new maps then the NCGA must do the right thing and vote to pass HB200 themselves.</p>
596		Jul 29 2017 10:33PM	Dr. Sarah Carmichael	Partisan gerrymandering has long been a problem in this state and it needs to stop. It only results in frustration and disenfranchisement and increasingly extreme polarization, and discourages people from being involved in state politics because why bother trying to be involved if there's no way you can ever hope to win if you're in a safe district for the opposing party? Why bother trying to reach across to all your constituents if you're in a safe district for your own part? Each side is guilty of this at different times, but it is now at the point where it is tearing our state apart. I'm an independent voter in Ashe County and I fully support and encourage independent redistricting. No one's seat should be safe.

597		Jul 29 2017 10:34PM	Mrs. Marie Garlock	It is imperative that this not be a racist, classist, manipulated practice in simply serving GOP wishes to disenfranchise the voters of this state. It is imperative that partisan processes--for ANY ideology--not influence the structure of districts for NCGA. In the meantime, we call upon the NCGA, as an unconstitutionally-constituted body, to cease and desist all its legislative proceedings that are comprised of passing ANY new laws. Honestly, the laws you've passed thus far in session since the election SHOULD not be able to negatively affect our people any longer, either! In this stolen super-majority, you DO NOT currently and accurately represent the will of the voters of NC. God is watching, alongside all your constituents.
598		Jul 30 2017 6:19AM	Dr. Margaret Silkstone	I support a fair and open process for creating new districts. It should not be left to one party to create the districts but to a nonpartisan group that makes the new maps. Counties should not be so divided and communities should be kept together with new maps.
599		Jul 30 2017 6:39AM	Ms. Ann Seymour	Fix this now. What this legislature has done to voters is a disgrace and against the law.
600		Jul 30 2017 7:14AM	Mrs. Rita Parham	The process of redistricting needs to be completed fairly and rapidly. It is so disheartening to see the behavior of our legislators in their refusal to advance this process.
601		Jul 30 2017 7:32AM	Rosemary Stark.	NC badly needs a non partisan redistributing commission so that neither party can qerrymander ever again.
602		Jul 30 2017 7:35AM	Ms. Laura Abraham	Please let districts reflect their communities, not abstract shapes to take away the voting impact of marginalized people.
603		Jul 30 2017 8:44AM	Mr. David Molinaro	Responsibility for redistricting should be vested in an independent special commission, with membership that reflects the diversity of the unit of government, including citizens at large, representatives of public interest groups, and members of minority groups. Criteria: Districts should be apportioned primarily according to population ('one person one vote'). Districts should be single-member, compact, convenient, contiguous, and reflect communities of interest. Other Additional criteria should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be enforceable in court • Require: Substantially equal population, geographic contiguity, effective representation of racial and linguistic minorities • Provide for promotion of partisan fairness, preservation and protection of 'communities of interest', respect for boundaries of municipalities and counties • Compactness and competitiveness may also be considered as criteria so long as they do not conflict with the above criteria • Explicitly reject: Protection of incumbents. Do not use of addresses of incumbents or political affiliation of registered voters or other partisan data.
604		Jul 30 2017 8:57AM	Ms. Ruby Coughenour	I share the views of Democracy NC. We need districts that are fair and open, avoiding racial or partisan gerrymandering. We need districts that allow voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around.
605		Jul 30 2017 10:30AM	Daniel Sircar	I support a process for drawing political district maps that is fair and open; avoids racial or partisan gerrymandering; and allows voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around. I urge lawmakers to support a redistricting process that follows these guiding principles. I also urge lawmakers to follow the efficiency gap standards developed by researchers when considering redistricting for fairness.
606		Jul 30 2017 10:44AM	Ms. Patrick Berger	To whom it may concern. I am a lifetime resident of North Carolina. I am writing to demand an independent redistricting process. The courts have found that the maps were drawn with "surgical precision" to undermine the political power of African Americans, by packing some districts while making others safely Republican. Racial gerrymandering has a long and sorted history in NC and the south in general. Segregationist Democrats used the same tactics and more to suppress the democratic representation of people of color under Jim Crow. The current GOP strategy aided by modern technology has taken this historical racial injustice and brought it into the 21st century. This is unacceptable. It is clear now that the only concern of the NC General Assembly is to hold onto their ill-gotten power. It is profoundly undemocratic for representatives to be able to choose their constituents. Rather voters should be able to elect people to represent themselves without fear that the color of their skin or their voter history will be used to undermine their access to democratic representation. That is why I am demanding an independent body to redraw the districts in our state. The General assembly cannot be trusted to objectively draw their own maps. There must be an independent body to take on this essential task if we are to save our representative democracy.
607		Jul 30 2017 10:44AM	Veva Silva	I am concerned about partisan gerrymandering in our state. Please vote to make districts that are geographically reasonable and reflect the racial diversity in a way that will not disenfranchise voters of color or religious minorities. There should be voting areas in our state that are not maiority white.
608		Jul 30 2017 10:55AM	Bill Roach	I support nonpartisan redistricting. No single political party should be in charge of establishing voting districts. I believe that this will allow political debate\discourse which will fairly reflect all sides of an issue. Neither political party should be in a position to neglect the views of up to 50% of the voters with little regard for consequences.

609		Jul 30 2017 11:30AM	Nicole Bader	Gerrymandering hurts all of us. Please make FAIR maps by using an impartial third party to draw them!
610		Jul 30 2017 11:37AM	Mrs. Beth Harper	I support a process for drawing political district maps that is: fair and open; avoids racial or partisan gerrymandering; and allows voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around. I urge lawmakers to support a redistricting process that follows these guiding principles. Thank you, Beth Harper
611		Jul 30 2017 11:50AM	Dr. Scott Harper	I support a process for drawing political district maps that is: fair and open; avoids racial or partisan gerrymandering; and allows voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around. I urge lawmakers to support a redistricting process that follows these guiding principles
612		Jul 30 2017 12:39PM	Ms. Marge Shelton	As a result of partisanship, North Carolina is known around the world as an example of how NOT to govern. We need our state and federal governments to be representative of our actual population, and we need nonpartisan redistricting. Right now we have a state filled with little fiefdoms. We can do better
613		Jul 30 2017 12:48PM	Mrs. Amy Shuman	Thank you for seeking public comment about redistricting. Please draw district lines that are fair and avoid racial and partisan gerrymandering. Ultimately, redistricting by an independent body seems that it would solve a lot of issues and avoid costly legal fees. Both Republicans and Democrats have supported this change over the years and introduced bills to this effect. Please consider. In the meantime, please draw lines that allow everyone's vote to count. Thank you for your time and for serving North Carolina constituents.
614		Jul 30 2017 1:18PM	Ms. Anne Zangi	Would it not be fair to draw the redistricting lines along county borders? For large population counties, can we not just split them proportionally?
615		Jul 30 2017 1:21PM	Mrs. Valerie Brockenbrough	We need fair and open election, avoid racial or partisan gerrymandering; and allows voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around. It needs to be bi-partisan effort. The released EIP report, North Carolina's overall electoral integrity score of 58/100 for the 2016 election places us alongside authoritarian states and pseudo-democracies like Cuba, Indonesia and Sierra Leone. This has to change. North Carolina is not only the worst state in the USA for unfair districting but the worst entity in the world ever analyzed by the Electoral Integrity Project.Respect for democracy is not a partisan issue.
616		Jul 30 2017 1:33PM	Dr. Ignatius Britto	I strongly support a democratic process to address. An independent and bipartisan committee should be created. This committee should periodically review and make proposals for redistricting which should be adopted. Having the legislative body to do this results in a very partisan process. This is clearly evident in the recent plans for redistricting
617		Jul 30 2017 1:54PM	Mr. Ryan Collins	Gerrymandering has for centuries undermined fair elections in our country by giving political parties representative power that is disproportionate to their support across the state. Furthermore, it makes elections less competitive and often results in elected officials with more extreme ideologies. As a result, our state and congressional leaders are not always representing the opinions and interests of most North Carolinians. Nonpartisan redistricting would ensure fair and competitive elections, which would result in elected officials who are more responsive to the needs and voices of their citizens, rather than their party. Please take the right and moral path by transferring redistricting to a
618		Jul 30 2017 1:55PM	Ms. Christina Graybard	I am in favor of the establishment of a bipartisan/nonpartisan commission to do redistricting that rids NC of political gerrymandering. Such commissions have been created in at least 15 states and have succeeded in drawing districts that allow for fair voting.
619		Jul 30 2017 2:30PM	Dr. Margaret Britto	A properly functioning democratic process is the cornerstone of our American society.That is the main characteristic that differentiates us from other countries and governments, that are "democratic" in name only but are really led by dictatorial leaders, one party governments, or corrupt politicians with their own personal agendas. In order to prevent this from happening in our country we need to set up truly democratic organizations to function as critical gatekeepers. I strongly urge the legislature to support the setup of a permanent, INDEPENDENT, bipartisan committee to be in charge of drawing or redrawing of district lines. That is the only way to ensure that these decisions are as free from party and personal interests as possible.
620		Jul 30 2017 3:48PM	Mr. Perry McCorkle	I worked in the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division at DOJ and I can say with certainty that it doesn't take months to draw district maps. I would ask that the Legislature move forward with new maps as soon as possible and not find excuses to delay this important process. An independent Redistricting Commission needs to be put in place immediately so that the people of North Carolina can have trust in their elected representatives. Thank you

621		Jul 30 2017 3:54PM	Dr. Joan Jobsis	<p>We need a redistricting process that is free of racial and/or partisan bias.</p> <p>And, we need an independent redistricting process that neither party (Republican or Democratic) can influence in the present or in the future.</p> <p>The citizens of this State deserve to have their votes count,to have their voices heard, and to have representatives who serve their well-being and their interests.</p>
622		Jul 30 2017 4:45PM	Dr. William Yeager	<p>It is time to stop playing games with voting rights. We need an independent, non-partisan commission to re-district the NC legislature and iudicial seats.</p>
623		Jul 30 2017 5:06PM	Ms. Patricia Rieser	<p>Dear Public Servants,</p> <p>We write in response to your invitation for comments regarding your tardy and court-ordered effort to draw new maps for NC’s federal and state electoral districts. In our work experience, we would not have been invited to “try again” after multiple attempts at my efforts had been rebuffed and found inadequate by numerous courts, that’s sadly not the case for Mr Lewis and Mr Hofeller.</p> <p>We are among the MAJORITY of moderate NC citizens who are sick of hyper-partisanship and the wild swings of power in our state. We want to see districts that fairly represent ALL NC citizens.</p> <p>Criteria we would like to see used include: Compliance with the US Constitution and the Voting Rights Act Districts with equal population Districts that are contiguous and geographically compact Districts that are competitive, as long as the above criteria are met Districts that are NOT established with the purpose of diluting the voting strength of any people, groups, or political parties Districts that are NOT drawn to favor or discriminate against any incumbent, political candidate, or political party.</p> <p>The voters of this state, along with the courts, are following your actions closely. Perhaps this time will be the charm, and you will finally carry out the will of the majority of citizens who support fair districts.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>Patti Rieser, RN, FNP (retired) Joseph Woolley, PhD</p>
624		Jul 30 2017 5:17PM	Ms. Cheri DeRosia	<p>Do the right thing before a court makes you do it. Stop the ridiculous expenditure of public funds to defend unfair districts. It's easy - use the nonpartisan maps developed by Duke University and Common Cause in 2016. Or something else. Just do it!</p>
625		Jul 30 2017 5:26PM	Mr. Jamie MacKinnon	<p>Anyone can tell when a district has been gerrymandered. A district should look as close to a square or rectangle as possible.</p>
626		Jul 30 2017 5:59PM	Mr. Robin Myer	<p>I want an independent council to be responsible for redistricting all of North Carolina's voting districts.</p>
627		Jul 30 2017 6:05PM	Ms. Michele Phillips	<p>This must be done immediately as we are in limbo. And the redistricting MUST be fair and open, avoid racial or partisan gerrymandering, and allows voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around. If this does not happen - then NC is not longer a democracy.</p>
628		Jul 30 2017 7:00PM	Ms. Leesa Brieger	<p>We sorely need non-partisan generation of district maps so that the practice of racially-driven and/or partisan-driven districting ends (and doesn't return). The current state of affairs with districting presents a threat to our democracy, to which the current GOP super-majority seems to have little interesting in adhering. But the voters are not OK with that!</p> <p>End this state of affairs - stop the practice of the legislators choosing their voters rather than the other way around! Guarantee districting that does not discriminate along partisan or racial lines. Get politics out of districting NOW!</p>
629		Jul 30 2017 7:14PM	Lara Little	<p>All districts should be drawn to take into account population and geography with no regard at all for voting history or party affiliation. This nation was founded on the idea of a democracy where everyone gets to vote - but this is negated if districts are drawn to suppress votes.</p>
630		Jul 30 2017 8:08PM	Mrs. Sarah Morse	<p>I urge the NCGA to adopt a redistricting policy and procedure that is wholly non partisan, as to completely avoid political, racial, and socioeconomic gerrymandering. I support the establishment of an independent redistricting body that would draw new, fair districts completely separate and apart from the influence of elected officials, lobbyists, and corporations. Thank you for this opportunity to submit comment on this very important issue. I hope you will do your utmost to ensure that North Carolina's government is a fair and representative democracy that is a model for the nation and allows voters to choose their representatives, not the other way around.</p>
631		Jul 30 2017 9:26PM	Ms. Leigh Watts	<p>Maps should be drawn using no political, scientific criteria that divide the state into districts of equal population size that are diverse. There are software programs that can accomplish this without any bias.</p>

632		Jul 30 2017 9:43PM	Ms. Demarie Anderson	As a taxpaying voter, I implore you to draw the new legislative districts in a fair and balanced manner. You, as our representatives, have a responsibility to insure that we, as citizens, are fairly represented in our government. Currently in NC, we are not represented equitably, due to the extreme gerrymandering that has been allowed to continue. This is not a partisan issue; if you look at it objectively, you would realize it is a moral imperative to redraw the districts in a manner that is in keeping with what our founders envisioned. Thank you.
633		Jul 30 2017 10:27PM	Mr. Bruce Springthorpe	<p>The problem, as I see it, is that members of the legislature do not WANT unbiased districts. It's a threat to their power, and to their influential jobs. The is not an attack on the current majority. Their counterparts did the same thing when they were in control. It's human nature.</p> <p>The solution, however, is not a "commission" or a "committee". When humans draw districts they cannot help but be partisan, so use technology to solve the problem.</p> <p>A computer program can be written to perform that function without any bias. This has been proven - I wrote such a program for the US House districts and offered to give it to the State of NC in 2001. That's the approach to be used. I'd volunteer my time, and I'm sure others would do the same. I'm proposing that the software be developed in the public domain so that it can be reviewed by thousands of programmers to be sure that there is no manipulation of the data or of the results. The cost to the state would be minimal or non-existent and the fairness of results could not be challenged.</p> <p>Sincerely, Bruce Springthorpe</p>
634		Jul 30 2017 10:33PM	Dr. Ann Harlan	I am quite sick of the gerrymandering (by both parties). Our representatives need to have fair and honest map lines drawn. No more of this racial and political districting. I can assure you that everyone I know feels the same way regardless of political perspective. I think an independent and unbiased group (like the ACLU) should draw the district lines. Take it out of the hands of the representatives so it is not self-serving.
635		Jul 31 2017 12:09AM	Mr. Ollie Treadway	It's critical that our districts be drawn to allow fair and open elections of our representatives free of manipulation through gerrymandering by political parties. A practice that our founding fathers would condemn as contrary to the principles on which our country was founded. It's time we started practicing true democracy again.
636		Jul 31 2017 12:26AM	Mr. Lawrence Turk	Partisan commissions will always be unfair and undemocratic. It's long past time for nonpartisan redistricting. Your obscene gerrymandering has created our state and national mess. So many "safe" seats means we get reps that only serve their team's wingnuts.
637		Jul 31 2017 6:46AM	Mrs. Liz Noland	<p>I support a process for drawing political district maps that is: fair and open; avoids racial or partisan gerrymandering; and allows voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around.</p> <p>I urge lawmakers to support a nonpartisan redistricting process that follows these guiding principles. I do not feel that the current method of having lawmakers draw their own districts, results in representatives who truly represent me or my fellow constituents in my region of NC.</p>
638		Jul 31 2017 6:58AM	Robin Buchanan	Divide districts by population only. Where possible, keep counties intact. Do not use ANY other criteria.
639		Jul 31 2017 7:02AM	Robin Buchanan	Let a computer draw the lines based on population. No other criteria.
640		Jul 31 2017 8:38AM	Ms. Linda Hartford	In the Spirit of our Constitution of the United States PLEASE support a fair and democratic districting map.
641		Jul 31 2017 8:57AM	Maggi Jackson	<p>I support a process for drawing political district maps that is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fair and open; • avoids racial or partisan gerrymandering; and • allows voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around. <p>I urge lawmakers to support a redistricting process that follows these guiding principles.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment.</p>
642		Jul 31 2017 9:10AM	Ms. kimberley korb	I demand fair voting maps in NC. Decisions are underway in the state regarding gerrymandered voting districts, which have significantly contributed to the Republican-held supermajorities in the NC General Assembly. This is unacceptable.
643		Jul 31 2017 9:12AM	Jeanette Stokes	I would like for the redistricting maps to be drawn in a way that is free of partisan politics. We can have districts in which voters get to choose their representatives instead of maps on which representatives choose their voters.
644		Jul 31 2017 9:22AM	Mr. Marc Schaub	It's time for the General Assembly to establish a permanent, independent committee to handle redistricting. I am one of over 2 million unaffiliated voters - we make up 30% of the electorate in North Carolina - and I continue to be distressed by the efforts of both parties to gerrymander districts with no regard for anything except holding on to power. The establishment of an independent, non-partisan committee is the only path to establishing a General Assembly that truly represents the will of North Carolinians.

645		Jul 31 2017 9:37AM	Ms. Sheila Denn	I would ask that the NCGA engage in a process that is *truly* transparent, fair and impartial in this redistricting. It is important to have public meetings and input, but it is also important that public input actually be taken into account; the evidence in the lawsuits is clear that public input was for show only last time and was almost completely disregarded. I also believe that it is a mistake to involve Thomas Hofeller again, since so many of the districts drawn under his direction have been declared unconstitutional. Especially since Rep. Lewis has declared that Democrats will have no access to him. How is this transparent, fair, or impartial? If the state wants to avoid more embarrassing lawsuits, then a good start would be to make the process more fair.
646		Jul 31 2017 10:08AM	Mr. perry woods	No demographic info other than needed for law, party registration, or vote history should be included in drawing maps. Only population. Districts should not be drawn for any partisan advantage. Thanks.
647		Jul 31 2017 10:18AM	Mrs. Marissa Joyce	Hello, My name is Marissa Joyce, and I am writing to strongly advocate in favor of non-partisan redistricting in our state. I think it is shameful that NC is in the national spotlight for unfair gerrymandering, and I think it is time for our state to lead the nation in integrity and unbiased voting. This is a unique opportunity we have to re-write our maps, and I, for one, think it is high time that we get rid of partisan politics in the way we draw the maps altogether. It is VERY important to me that we draw our political districts in a way that is fair and open, avoids racial or partisan bias, and allows the VOTERS to determine who gets elected, not the elected officials. Thank you so much for considering this feedback.
648		Jul 31 2017 10:33AM	Mr. Peyton Anderson	Please do the right thing and make the district mapping a non-partisan activity. We all teach the next generation that "two wrongs don't make a right" - what was done to the GOP in last cycle was not fair either. Reasonable people in the middle deserve open and competitive races where we can select from people that are accountable to the great majority in the middle - not districts where the fringe people control the primary process and the seat is automatic. I am a pro-business, pro-conservative, small government person - I am not a ideologue from the left. Please do the right thing - we don't need more extreme agendas - we need more common sense and compromise results. Thanks for considering this input.
649		Jul 31 2017 10:40AM	Ms. Alice Wellborn	Redistricting maps must be drawn fairly, without intrusion from partisan politics, and in a way that protects natural groupings of citizens (counties, towns). The General Assembly should NOT pick their voters - voters have to be able to pick their representatives and senators. The maps must be redrawn NOW. Passing laws with illegal districts is a lesson in unethical behavior and cynicism
650		Jul 31 2017 10:50AM	Dr. Dennis Welch	Redistricting in North Carolina must adhere to the following criteria: (1) allowing voters to select their political representatives, NOT the other way round (2) being transparent and fair (3) NOT gerrymandering in terms of race and partisanship (4) NOT being delayed . The courts, including the United States Supreme Court, have decided against gerrymandering in North Carolina. Any effort to negate, nullify, or put off redistricting that follows the criteria listed above would be unAmerican, defying and undermining the three branches government, both the North Carolina State and the U.S. constitutions, and well-established law.
651		Jul 31 2017 10:50AM	Ms. Amalie Tuffin	As a long time resident of the state, I am appalled at the amount of time, money and effort that has gone into the redistricting process. It is a stain on our state's reputation to have been repeatedly rebuked by the courts, including the US Supreme Court. Please take this opportunity to redraw the maps in a fair way that is not impacted by either racial or partisan considerations. It is time for all political parties to succeed or fail based on their policies, accomplishment and vision for our state, and not based upon having given themselves an unfair advantage. Indeed, what has been done is morally and ethically indefensible and it is time to take a step back from that brink. Thank you
652		Jul 31 2017 11:00AM	Cheryl Sebrell	No gerrymandering for partisan advantage should be allowed.Using computer modeling, there are fair ways to draw districts.
653		Jul 31 2017 11:05AM	Ms. Lael Gray	I urge you to implement a special, non-partisan commission to create fair districts for the state of North Carolina. Your constituents are tired of having our votes manipulated by either party through the unfair gerrymandering that has happened at the hands of both the Democrats and the Republicans.
654		Jul 31 2017 11:24AM	Dr. Andrew Perrin	The gerrymandering by both parties has made North Carolina a laughing stock and a travesty of democracy. Please implement nonpartisan redistricting, with the standard being that the districts best represent the people of North Carolina!

655		Jul 31 2017 11:37AM	Mr. Edward Ragsdale	I am writing to urge everyone involved in redistricting to put aside partisan politics and any perceived political wins or loses so that they can take seriously the task of fairly and impartially deciding our districts. As someone who doesn't share a district with my neighbors across the street but does share a district with people in Goldsboro 80 miles away, I have been appalled by the depths of partisanship and racism that determined these districts. I believe what we really need is to establish a process of using a third-party impartial organization separated from political influence and bound by strict rules to disregard or not be allowed data pertaining to socioeconomic or race of the populace and based solely on population and traits of the physical
656		Jul 31 2017 11:46AM	Dr. Peter Anderson	The districts should not turn out to be the same as before, so we can waste more time and tax dollars being revealed as unconstitutional. Therefore, the districts should follow state and federal law, Voting Rights Act and state constitutional mandates. Avoid splitting counties and follow boundaries of state political subdivisions. Ignore results of past elections and residence of incumbents or challengers. Be leary of Tom Hofeller and listen to NC citizens.
657		Jul 31 2017 11:55AM	Mrs. Shirley Thomas	Let's get this redistricting done for the midterm election in 2018!
658		Jul 31 2017 12:13PM	Mrs. Kimberly Rehberg	I would like to suggest first that you hire a different consultant than Hofeller, who was so integrally involved in creating the most hyper-partisan and unconstitutional legislative and congressional districts in the country. This is NOT what NC should be known for. Secondly, in terms of criteria for redistricting, NC protection of all NC citizens necessitates that the G.A. be guided by the following criteria in re-drawing districts: 1) Politically Neutral – No addresses of candidates or incumbents should be used, and residents’ voting histories should not be considered. 2) Compact and Contiguous – Voters within a district should not be unnecessarily dispersed, and no voting district may be geographically divided, or split, by another district, i.e. all portions of a district must connect. 3) Respect Boundaries – Avoid dividing counties and municipalities where possible. 4) Protect Communities of Interest – Avoid dividing communities of interest where possible. Communities of interest typically have social, cultural, racial, ethnic, and/or economic interests in common. 5) Transparent Process – The process of creating maps should be transparent, providing maps as soon as possible, live-streaming meetings, and allowing the public to provide suggestions for changes to the draft maps. Thanks for your consideration
659		Jul 31 2017 12:13PM	Ms. Kathleen Klesh	My husband and I would like redistricting to be based on the bi-partisan House Bill 200. This would reduce partisan gerrymandering. It has worked in Iowa. Enough politicking. It's time to let the voters vote and choose their representatives in the House and Senate, not the reverse.
660		Jul 31 2017 12:26PM	Ms. Betty Lawrence	It is hard to comment when we haven't seen what we are commenting on. However, I want to say that I am appalled that our legislature has been unconstitutionally elected for the last three elections, and that the unconstitutional legislature is setting itself up for sessions in (at least) August, September and May. Redistricting should be expedited to permit a special election this year. It should also be done in a nonpartisan manner. I am a registered Independent, and I am so tired of partisanship seeping into every nook and cranny of our government. It is a travesty. Give us a map of the new districts; we can comment on that. I actual hope the Court appoints a special master, because the current unconstitutional majority has given me no reason to hope it will behave in a responsible way.
661		Jul 31 2017 12:38PM	Beth Davison	Because of sophisticated GIS mapping software and big data, we know, probably with around 90% accuracy, how a household is likely to vote. Thus drawing district maps with engineered precision to favor one party over the other is easy to do, but wrong. The result is what we see in the U.S. Congress, gridlock. When you know you are in a safe seat, there is no need to compromise. We need a better alternative that takes into account how we are geographically sorting ourselves primarily into urban/progressive and rural/conservative communities. Packing and cracking these communities stifles political input. Our current system is not a democracy. Redistricting matters, we can do better. To start, let voters pick the politicians, instead of the current redistricting system where politicians pick their voters.

662		Jul 31 2017 1:02PM	Mr. L Patrick Burrows	<p>With the redistricting process underway because of the Supreme Court's ruling that the previous district maps were an unconstitutional racial gerrymander, I am writing to voice my extreme concern that the new maps are drawn in a fair and transparent way. It is clear that the previous maps attempted to disenfranchise black voters in particular, and Democratic voters in general. This is absolutely unacceptable. It runs contrary to the democratic and republican principles on which this nation was founded, and on which this State has long been an example within the South, for lawmakers to pick their voters rather than the voters freely selecting those who are to represent them. It is deeply concerning that the same GOP mapmaker as who drew the previous unconstitutional maps is involved in drawing them again, and almost spells another trip through the courts to knock them down again.</p> <p>Rather than repeat this constant back and forth between Democrats and Republicans both gerrymandering, this process should be entirely unpartisan, with political scientists and experts in voting fairness involved from top to bottom. Especially with the significant resources in just this particular area in the various universities within the State system, there is no reason these resources should not be drawn upon. There should be an independent, politics-blind commission responsible for districting.</p> <p>The maps, when they are finalized, should be widely disseminated and public comments once again invited, so as to maintain public accountability. This should not be a closed door process, nor should it be a late night vote. We are watching you, and we will demand accountability of you.</p>
663		Jul 31 2017 2:08PM	Mrs. Ann Baker	<p>Our democratic institutions are under unprecedented assault right now. Redistricting needs to be based solely on common sense geographical areas. Attempts to weight districts towards a party majority is unethical no matter what party it favors. Every citizen's vote should have the ability to count and not be automatically invalid because of manipulated districting. I am a moderate republic and believe we should protect our democratic process!</p>
664		Jul 31 2017 2:20PM	Dianna Wynn	<p>I suggest that new maps be guided by the following criteria: Politically Neutral – No addresses of candidates or incumbents should be used, and residents’ voting histories should not be considered. Compact and Contiguous – Voters within a district should not be unnecessarily dispersed, and no voting district may be geographically divided, or split, by another district, i.e. all portions of a district must connect. Respect Boundaries – Avoid dividing counties and municipalities where possible. Protect Communities of Interest – Avoid dividing communities of interest where possible. Communities of interest typically have social, cultural, racial, ethnic, and/or economic interests in common. Transparent Process – The process of creating maps should be transparent, providing maps as soon as possible, live-streaming meetings, and allowing the public to provide suggestions for changes to the draft maps.</p>
665		Jul 31 2017 2:45PM	Dr. Justin Johnson	<p>To fully represent the people of North Carolina, any non-state-wide partisan electoral district (judges, US Congress, NCGA, etc) should be drawn by a bipartisan group of non-elected citizens, to eliminate the possibility of gerrymandering of any kind. Districts should be drawn as evenly as possible with regard to political party registration, so as to select for the most moderate, non-ideologically skewed candidates possible. An ideal district will have 50% registered Republicans and 50% registered Democrats, since the state as a whole is roughly 50-50. This is best for government - the current gerrymandered districts select for the most extremist candidates of both parties, leading to dysfunctional government, because idealogues put ideological extremism over good compromising government. The people should elect their representation, not the other way around. Justin Johnson</p>
666		Jul 31 2017 2:45PM	Mrs. Helene Heilig	<p>I am writing in support of setting up Independent Commissions to draw fair voting maps in North Carolina. A independent group should be able to establish maps to allow for fair representation of all people in NC. Thank you</p>
667		Jul 31 2017 3:11PM	Ms. Rae Thompson	<p>I am an active NC voter. I believe voting districts should accurately represent ALL the citizens of the state in proportion to where they live, not gerrymandered by race or party.</p> <p>In addition, I urge you to follow the criteria below to create maps for NC Senate and House and US Congressional districts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? Compliance with the US Constitution and the Voting Rights Act (VRA) of 1965 ? Districts with equal population to the greatest extent possible ? Districts that are geographically compact and contiguous ? Districts that are NOT established with the major purpose of diluting the voting strength of any people or groups, including any political party ? Districts should NOT be drawn for the purpose of favoring or discriminating against any incumbent, political candidate, or political party.

668		Jul 31 2017 3:40PM	Carolyn Silber	I strongly favor a nonpartisan legislative staff to redraw our district maps that neither dilutes or augments voting patterns that favor an incumbent or political party. States that have already done so have experienced few legislative challenges saving time and money not to mention increased voter satisfaction that his or her "vote mattered"
669		Jul 31 2017 3:45PM	Mrs. Taneka Williams	Given the verdict from the Supreme Court of the United States of America, it is vital to our state government that gerrymandering end. I am requesting bipartisan collaboration to ensure equity.
670		Jul 31 2017 4:09PM	Mr. Steven Grochowsky	1) Maintaining or establishing a partisan advantage for any party must not be a criterion for the construction or approval of House and Senate district plans. 2) Districts must be compact and contiguous. 3) District boundaries shall conform to the existing geographic boundaries of counties and cities and shall preserve identifiable communities of interest to the greatest extent possible.
671		Jul 31 2017 4:10PM	Ms. Shirley Fergison	Legal redistricting
672		Jul 31 2017 4:32PM	Mrs. Ellen McNeill	Maintaining or establishing a partisan advantage for any party shall NOT be a criterion for the construction or approval of House and Senate district plans.
673		Jul 31 2017 4:35PM	Steve Harrison	Public confidence in our electoral system is at an all-time low, and the only way to begin to restore that is to remove the obvious conflicts of interest surrounding the partisan redistricting process. At the very least, elected officials from both parties should be actively involved, to ensure any issues that arise are dealt with now, and not in court a few months down the road. Because make no mistake, doing the wrong thing multiple times is not going to solve this problem, it will just make it worse. And the longer this problem persists, the more the voting public will come to believe it is their rights being withheld and abused, and not just a candidate's right to a fair election. The choice is yours: Continue to erode the democracy so many people died building and defending, or do what you know is right. It's not a hard decision.
674		Jul 31 2017 5:37PM	Mrs. Lucia Messina	Dear Chairman and Members: I moved to SC, just a short while ago. I have been active in legislature issues and politics for several years in NC. Before my husband and I moved, I worked for the 2010 Census and attended several of the GOP redistricting meetings in Wilmington, NC. Here is what my notes stated about these meetings. The panel of members conducting redistricting were polite and on time. The notice of those meetings were not as forth coming as they should have been and were cut short. Most of the information given by the public was given with the full knowledge that the GOP planned to gerrymander the congressional districts of NC. I would like to say that any of the learned statements by the public were taken into account. That was not the case. Their statements for a fair and legally draw map were listened to and disregarded. Even reports from Congressman McIntyre were incorrect. After 18 years in the Congress, his district was to look nothing like an acceptable, accountable drawing of the 7th district. After the GOP submitted their plan it was obvious that the plan was not drawn on the basis of population and their boundaries. As it turned out only 2 district were compliant based on acceptable deviation, thus the Court cases to the highest level. The history of NC is one of political advantage when it comes to redistricting. This policy of political dishonesty when it comes to redistricting must end. North Carolina needs a bipartisan commission to redraw the lines for the Congressional redistricting for 2018 and continue this process as a permanent legislative entity for the future.
675		Jul 31 2017 5:45PM	Dr. Rebecca Fogley	I am a registered Democrat, and while I would like more qualified Democratic candidates to be elected, I implore you to draw political district maps that avoid partisan gerrymandering. Regardless of party affiliation, I want my fellow North Carolinians' votes to be equally impactful. In this vein, I am also strongly opposed to racial gerrymandering. I urge you to make the process for redrawing maps open in order to safeguard against such tactics that pervert democracy.
676		Jul 31 2017 5:52PM	Mrs. Linda Hall	I want to see lawmakers draw political maps that are fair and open which will not reflect racial or partisan gerrymandering as they are now. As citizens we should be served by representatives who want to make the moral, honest, ethical decisions and not choose their constituents according to their politics. Do the Christian thing.
677		Jul 31 2017 5:54PM	Mr. Brody Wooten	I would like to see districts that are not gerrymandered. Neither racially or politically. I think districts that are so heavily tilted to one party that only that party's candidate runs, and the opposition doesn't even have a candidate in that district, are a travesty. The new districts should be fairly balanced, and allow citizens to have a fair choice between the parties.
678		Jul 31 2017 5:57PM	Dale Lee	Maintaining or establishing a partisan advantage for any party should not be a criterion for construction or approval of any electoral district. This is fundamental to the American Way. Please rise above your self interest and do the right thing. Ask your minister and your conscience.
679		Jul 31 2017 7:02PM	Mrs. Elizabeth Ritter	Maintaining or establishing a partisan advantage for any party shall NOT be a criterion for the construction or approval of House and Senate district plans.

680		Jul 31 2017 7:04PM	Mrs. Susan Jezorek	Both parties have been using the redistricting process to their advantage when they were in power which means voters have often been denied a fair voice in elections. It is past time to have truly fair nonbiased districts. Please work to accomplish this for all the citizens of North Carolona.
681		Jul 31 2017 7:20PM	Mrs. Diane Jordan	<p>I am writing to urge the General Assembly to redraw the voting maps without regard for partisan political factors. Voting is a fundamental right upon which our democracy is based. Gerrymandering district boundaries to predetermine election outcomes is wrong and denies citizens their voting rights. Districts should be drawn that are based on nonpartisan factors such as compactness, contiguity and compliance with the Voting Rights Act, not on political data having to do with party affiliations.</p> <p>While gerrymandering has been a long standing issue, there have been many bipartisan efforts in North Carolina to establish processes to rectify and prevent it in the future. Over the past several years, North Carolina has been the focus of negative attention, experienced confusion around elections and wasted a great deal of money due to</p> <p>AS a citizen of North Carolina, I urge that these efforts be heeded.</p>
682		Jul 31 2017 7:45PM	Ms. Stephanie Lowder	The concept of democracy, the integrity of NC elections, and the will of NC citizens, have been subverted by illegally drawn district maps. Gerrymandering is anathema to One-Person-One-Vote. As of 2016, 60% of NC voters favor INDEPENDENT (non-legislature, non-partisan) redrawing if our maps; only 9% opposed. -- Please see the impartial sample map drawn by Duke University & Common Cause in August 3016. -- The sooner, the better, as the people of NC are loosing trust in a gerrymandered legislature with elected officials who Do Not fairly or legally represent the people or their needs.
683		Jul 31 2017 8:01PM	Mr. Richard Doyle	<p>Hello,</p> <p>It's important to me that the state I call home is also a state where elections are fair, there is no racial gerrymandering, and political representatives are picked by the citizens (like me!), not the other way around.</p>
684		Jul 31 2017 8:07PM	Ms. Rebecca Bruening	<p>Dich</p> <p>I am writing to urge the General Assembly to redraw our voting districts in a non-partisan way. This is the only way to break the cycle of partisan gerrymandering and achieve equitable voting. It is a disgrace that North Carolina was given a score of 7 out of 100 by the Electoral Integrity Project, which measures the the quality of elections worldwide. That is lower than any other state - or country - analyzed. North Carolina has the potential to be a leader in democratic practices, and non-partisan districting would be a tremendous step in that direction. Please provide for a non-partisan redistricting process.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p>
685		Jul 31 2017 8:27PM	Ms. Isabel Geffner	<p>To all Senators and Representatives each of whom works on behalf of every person in the state of North Carolina:</p> <p>I beseech you to consider the moral imperative you have to ensure that every person in our state is given an equal opportunity to fairly vote for the candidates and policies that he or she supports without that vote being subject to a partisan determination of district lines. Justice is what is on the line here; moral, ethical, social justice for every person in this state. Surely you can come together and look into your own hearts and minds and do the right thing.</p> <p>My next vote will certainly reflect your prompt attention to this.</p>
686		Jul 31 2017 8:45PM	Dr. Kaaren Haldeman	As a North Carolina voter, I am interested in governance of our state with representatives who accurately reflect the demographics and conscience of our state. I advocate for fair maps drawn by a nonpartisan entity rather than the biased districts we have currently. Our state has a proud history as a "purple" state for good reason--and our representatives and governing bodies must represent that to the fullest extent. I am deeply disturbed by the use of race to effectively dismiss African American voters and am hopeful that our state will return soon to one that values not only democracy but the democratic process itself.
687		Jul 31 2017 9:21PM	Mrs. Kay Smitherman	<p>An independent commission needs to redraw our districts so that political party membership and race are not the only guiding lights. I'm tired of NC being a national example of one-sided bully politics. Please, get busy and pick INDEPENDENT, fair public servants to accomplish this task.</p> <p>Thank you!</p>
688		Jul 31 2017 9:36PM	Mrs. Vina Modaress	Please end gerrymandering. Draw the maps fairly. Allow citizens to pick their representative and not the other way around. End the racism. End the cheating politicians.

689		Jul 31 2017 9:56PM	Sondra VanSant	Surely the tit for tat political game of redistricting for maximizing voter strength of first one party and later the other has proven to be wasteful of resources and demonstrated the shutting down of debate and compromise. Surely you know debate and compromise increase the chances of incorporating the best ideas from both sides in crafting solutions to major issues. Don't all North Carolinians deserve this in their legislators? Please restore the right of voters to select their legislators rather than the other way around. Please put the daily lives of hard working citizens who pay your salaries above 2- and 4-year intervals of job security and power for legislators. Non-partisan districting seems such an obvious reasonable, fair, economical, and wise arrangement that I'm surprised it isn't part of our state constitution.
690		Jul 31 2017 10:55PM	beth anderson	I support non partisan redistricting. As determined by the Supreme Court the current districts are not drawn legally and in my opinion the result is an undermining of democracy in the this state. And the legislative battles to sustain the current districts has cost the NC tax payers millions of dollars. It is time the the North Carolina legislature stop playing expensive games and focus on making North Carolina a fairer and more democratic state
691		Jul 31 2017 10:58PM	Mr. Corey Cavalier	As a I expect and demand fair representation. I therefore demand that an independent bipartisan commission be established for the purpose of redrawing voting districts.
692		Jul 31 2017 11:27PM	Ms. Laura Wenzel	I have been voting in North Carolina since 1988. Like all voters, I want my vote to count. I also want my representatives to be able to effectively serve me and my neighbors. Therefore, I urge you to avoid drawing districts with the purpose of favoring particular parties or individuals. Instead, I urge you to draw districts that are geographically compact and contiguous and roughly equivalent in population size. Thank you
693		Aug 1 2017 6:01AM	Mrs. Lori Olivet	Gerrymandering is undemocratic, unrepresentative, and unfair, particularly in NC. In partisan districting systems, "representatives choose their voters, rather than voters choosing their representatives". In the 2016 NCGA elections, Republicans received 52% of votes for the House and 56% of votes for the Senate - but they won over 60% of House seats and 70% of Senate seats. The Electoral Integrity Project, which measures the quality of elections worldwide, gave NC a score of 7/100 on the integrity of its voting districts, lower than any other state - or country - analyzed. Legal challenges to partisan districting have been costly for our state. Nonpartisan redistricting would make our elections more democratic and fair.
694		Aug 1 2017 6:11AM	Elizabeth Hays	Please ensure that redistricting maps are drawn without regard to race or politics. North Carolinians want fair elections.
695		Aug 1 2017 7:28AM	Mr. David Marschall	We must adopt nonpartisan redistricting criteria for drawing new NC legislative districts.
696		Aug 1 2017 8:02AM	Mr. xandy smith	This is what I said, but say whatever you think about it: Please make the redistricting process fair and representative of us citizens. Partisanship has no place in this process. We demand fair voting maps and elections.
697		Aug 1 2017 8:08AM	Mr. Robert Palombo	STOP the gerrymandering. You are being watched closely so do your JOB!
698		Aug 1 2017 8:10AM	Mr. John Tasker	I understand that the redistricting maps are to be constructed by the same person/company who created this mess. If that is true it would be best to find someone else to draw the maps lest we end up in court again. The record of the guy who drew the current boundaries is now proven to be bad. expensively bad
699		Aug 1 2017 8:16AM	Kathryn Lang	I support HB200 and SB209 on nonpartisan redistricting. I am appalled that the Electoral Integrity Project, which measures the the quality of elections worldwide, gave North Carolina a score of 7/100 on the integrity of its voting districts. This is lower than any other state (or country!) that they analyzed. This is shameful, and the NCGA has repeatedly misled voters, drawn illegal maps, and dragged their feet on court decisions. We need nonpartisan redistricting now. Thank you.
700		Aug 1 2017 8:44AM	Beverly Dugan	I want non-partisan maps. The voters should choose their representatives. With the current districts, the politicians are choosing their voters. thus undermining our democracy.
701		Aug 1 2017 8:46AM	Ms. Marjorie Kalb	New redistricting maps MUST be drawn by an independent body with no significant loyalty to either party. The current system contributes to polarization and a vicious cycle of 'payback'. It was wrong when the Democrats were in control and it's wrong now that the GOP is in control. Please don't contribute to the erosion of democracy in NC with more partisan gerrymandering. Please
702		Aug 1 2017 8:56AM	Ms. Juliw Kafka	I wanted to comment in favor of nonpartisan redistricting. Nonpartisan redistricting will make our elections more democratic and fair. In the 2016 NCGA elections,I've heard reports that less than 15% of the races in the House and Senate were competitive. Furthermore, the Electoral Integrity Project, which measures the the quality of elections worldwide, gave NC a score of 7/100 on the integrity of its voting districts, lower than any other state - or country - analyzed. Please take the time to fix this, and decouple voting districts from partisan agendas. Thank you for your time!
703		Aug 1 2017 8:57AM	Mr. walter aakert	Districts should reflect voter preferences as close as possible. If 50% vote GOP and 50% for Dems, representation should be close to 50/50.

704		Aug 1 2017 8:58AM	Ms. Laurel Vincenty	<p>Thank you for inviting public input on what criteria to use in drawing up the new maps for the voting districts. I am a North Carolina resident in NC SENATE DISTRICT 16 and NC HOUSE DISTRICT 40.</p> <p>I ask that for both the House and the Senate, the drawing of the new maps follow these criteria:</p> <p>1. Make the maps impartial, that is, do not include political party affiliation, do not include addresses of candidates or incumbents, do not consider my voting history or the voting histories of any residents.</p> <p>2. Be transparent in this redrawing process: Provide maps on time, no delays. Live-stream meetings and provide other transparent means to allow the public to offer suggestions for any changes in the DRAFT maps.</p> <p>3. Draw maps so that they do not geographically divide any voting district or split a voting district by another district. Ensure that all parts of a district connect.</p> <p>4. Keep communities of interest intact - that is, communities that have social, racial, ethnic or economic interests. Work hard to avoid dividing those communities.</p> <p>5. Work hard to avoid dividing counties and municipalities.</p> <p>6. To verify that redrawn maps are fair and balanced, use the Open Source Redistricting software other states have used:</p> <p>https://code.google.com/archive/p/redistricter/</p>
705		Aug 1 2017 9:14AM	Mr. Michael Burke	I am a registered non-affiliated voter. I ask that you seriously consider the passing of HB 200. I believe this would accommodate a system of representative districts which would honestly reflect the voting population. It would actually make candidates and representatives work for our votes. An added benefit might be that such a process as outlined in the bill could be step in ending the Federal oversight of the 40 counties as mandated by the voting Rights Act of 1965.
706		Aug 1 2017 10:39AM	Ms. Ann Rauchbach	As a concerned NC voter, I implore the legislature to allow a nonpartisan group to fairly redraw the voting district lines. It is time to put gerrymandering to an end, because it is undemocratic, unfair, and does not represent how the people vote.
707		Aug 1 2017 10:46AM	Dr. Margaret Pennybacker	<p>Please let voters choose their legislators rather than having legislators choose their voters. We need fair districts now, not ones that unfairly benefit either party.</p> <p>Thanks,</p> <p>Margaret Pennybacker</p>
708		Aug 1 2017 10:49AM	Mr. Robert Spencer	I implore you to establish an independent, non-partisan commission to draw congressional districts on both the state and national levels for North Carolina. It should go without saying that voters choose their representatives, not the other way around. The only way to ensure that neither side engages in blatant gerrymandering in the future is to establish an independent commission to draw the districts, and to enshrine the commission in our state constitution.
709		Aug 1 2017 10:58AM	Ms. gloria faley	<p>Why is there no published schedule for public hearings directly on the redistricting site. You have to search through the NCGA site. This is ridiculous".</p> <p>http://www.ncleg.net/documentsites/committees/senate2017-154/7-26-2017/Public%20Input%20Opportunities%202</p>
710		Aug 1 2017 10:59AM	Ms. gloria faley	Citizens should be on the redistricting committee. Citizens that are appointment by a bipartisan group of legislatures and the governor.
711		Aug 1 2017 11:21AM	Julia Lloyd	It is past time to take this process out of the hands of politicians and create an independent panel to draw these maps. My vote matters. Each and every vote matters. Gerrymandering is the most non-democratic thing this country has engaged in. It is time for North Carolina to grow up and be a true democracy.
712		Aug 1 2017 11:21AM	Ms. Erica Loring	Using Thomas Hofeller again just shows you have no intention of creating districts that are fair and equitable. You plan to tie this up in court as long as possible to prevent the democratic party from selecting viable candidates and ample time to launch a competitive campaign. Do this the right way. Stop the nonsense and get back to governing the right way. Fair and equitable districts selected by an proven independent organization is the only method that should be used.
713		Aug 1 2017 11:40AM	Mrs. Terri Piasecki	Many experts have studied the gerrymandering of North Carolina. We need these experts and a bipartisan committee to determine the new districts. Thomas Hofeller is how we got this mess to begin with, he shouldn't be anywhere near the new maps. Take politics out of the redistricting process!!
714		Aug 1 2017 11:52AM	Mr. John Kennett	I would love to see a non-partisan commission draw up the district maps. Gerrymandering has been taken to the nth degree with recent computer technology. This means when things shift as they will in our state as they will with shifting demographics the other party will do the same. I know that a non partisan drawing of districts is unlikely but at least the districts can be drawn in a more concise manner and not have squiggly tentacles that stretch out to divide and exclude.

715		Aug 1 2017 12:05PM	Dr. Laurel Voelker	<p>To whom it may concern:</p> <p>I am watching the developments in redistricting in North Carolina closely. I feel strongly that fair electoral districts are the key to democracy.</p> <p>As you draw the maps over the next month, the most important thing is a truly transparent process. This includes public meetings, the provision of maps for public comment as soon as possible, and live-streaming of ALL committee meetings on redistricting. I hope that the “behind closed doors” process that resulted in the current unconstitutional maps will be left in the past. In addition, any proposed plan should include a written explanation of why the specific district boundaries were chosen.</p> <p>The data used to generate the maps should be limited to Census population data and race only as necessary to comply with the VRA. Addresses of incumbents or candidates, political affiliation, and voting histories should absolutely not be considered.</p> <p>Counties, municipalities and precincts should only be divided when there is no viable alternative.</p> <p>I look forward to seeing the maps.</p> <p>Respectfully,</p> <p>Dr. Laurel Voelker</p>
716		Aug 1 2017 12:06PM	Mrs. Elaine Bagley	<p>I feel very strongly that our voting maps should be drawn free of partisan influence. I would like to see a non-partisan commission draw the maps after each census and leave the legislature entirely out of it. Iowa and other states have implemented this procedure, and it has worked well. Please get NC out of the business of gerrymandered districts and the ensuing court procedures challenging them.</p> <p>I believe there is an issue at present which needs to be resolved before the election in 2018. Please get on with adjusting the boundaries of the districts to meet the guidelines that have been established.</p>
717		Aug 1 2017 12:28PM	Ms. Deborah McGovern	<p>We need to begin to respect the democratic process of the voters electing their legislators not the other way around. I support fair redistricting, not the usual partisan districting that both Republican and Democratic parties have done in the past.</p>
718		Aug 1 2017 12:53PM	Mrs. Jennifer Lietzke	<p>Below are some criteria for good maps that are recognized by anyone involved in redistricting reform. Politically Neutral – No addresses of candidates or incumbents should be used, and residents’ voting histories should not be considered. Compact and Contiguous – Voters within a district should not be unnecessarily dispersed, and no voting district may be geographically divided, or split, by another district, i.e. all portions of a district must connect. Respect Boundaries – Avoid dividing counties and municipalities where possible. Protect Communities of Interest – Avoid dividing communities of interest where possible. Communities of interest typically have social, cultural, racial, ethnic, and/or economic interests in common. Transparent Process – The process of creating maps should be transparent, providing maps as soon as possible, live-streaming meetings, and allowing the public to provide suggestions for changes to the draft</p>
719		Aug 1 2017 1:01PM	Mrs. Cheryl Brooks	<p>I want every vote to count. I want everyone to value the right to vote. I would rather voting be equal for all than to have my preferred candidate win.</p>
720		Aug 1 2017 1:08PM	rebecca maness	<p>We need fair and impartial redistricting...draw districts by computer or use the Iowa model!</p>
721		Aug 1 2017 1:13PM	Nancy Nice	<p>We need a BIPARTISAN committee to determine the new districts. Thomas Hofeller is partisan hack and shouldn't be anywhere near the new maps. Take politics out of the redistricting process!! The GOP makes me sick.</p>
722		Aug 1 2017 1:22PM	Mrs. Kimberly Geddes	<p>I am writing to express my concern for the racial and political gerrymandering that defines the current congressional districts. I urge those tasked with redrawing district lines to perform their duties honestly so that all NC citizens can rest assured that their vote has meaning!</p>
723		Aug 1 2017 1:30PM	Ms. Ann Koerber	<p>I support nonpartisan redistricting. Gerrymandering , for whatever reason, is unfair, unrepresentative, and undemocratic. In addition, legal challenges have been costly for our state.</p>

724		Aug 1 2017 1:34PM	Marilyn Carter	<p>Extreme gerrymandering in our great state has led to a legislature that no longer represents its citizens. We now have a system in North Carolina where “representatives choose their voters”, when voters should be choosing their representatives. Both sides of the aisle are guilty of gerrymandering, but the courts have clearly spoken on the requirement to redraw the current legislative voting districts.</p> <p>The Electoral Integrity Project gave NC a score of 7/100 on the integrity of its voting districts.</p> <p>This is lower than any other state (or country) analyzed, and sullies the good reputation that NC once had as a beacon of economic and social progress in the south. North Carolinians are watching the implementation of the courts' orders closely. They will remember and hold to account those who undermine representative government by standing in the way of expeditiously forming a map that accurately represents the citizenry of our state.</p>
725		Aug 1 2017 1:50PM	Karen Floyd	<p>Hello!</p> <p>I want voting maps drawn that are free from partisan politics and I'm hoping that my elected leaders feel the same way. Gerrymandering is undemocratic and unrepresentative and UNFAIR -- it decreases competition and contributes to polarization. Additionally, legal challenges to the existing partisan districting are costly -- NC has spent over \$5 million dollars, in just the past six years, on redistricting litigation. I'm urging my legislators to make our elections more democratic and fair. A fairly designed districting system (by an an independent, non partisan body) will enable us North Carolinian voters to choose our representatives, instead of our representatives choosing us. Our representatives are NOT supposed to be choosing who will vote for them...this is not how democracy works!</p> <p>Thank you for considering my comments here!</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Karen Floyd</p>
726		Aug 1 2017 2:03PM	Susanna Turner	Please allow NC to become a democracy again. All North Carolinians should have a voice.
727		Aug 1 2017 2:12PM	Mr. Clifton Morgan	<p>It is unfair to the people of North Carolina that we can not have fair and just elections. Stop the gerrymandering!!! Let the people of North Carolina elect their candidates....not the district.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
728		Aug 1 2017 2:13PM	Ms. Audrey Godshall	NON-PARTISAN
729		Aug 1 2017 2:27PM	Mrs. Leslie Sanders	Please keep redistricting fair, neither based on politics or race. Please uphold the very core of our democracy and keep this a non-partisan effort.
730		Aug 1 2017 2:42PM	Mrs. Paula Jennings	<p>Thank you for accepting public input.</p> <p>I will make it very short, as I know you will probably get a lot of interest and comments. I want all my children and grandchildren to have a seat at the table and that will not happen with gerrymandered districts.</p> <p>I recommend the following: *Transparency--all meetings open with live streaming. No smoke filled back room district drawing. *Districts should be drawn contiguously, without use of political data such addresses of incumbents and challengers, and without looking at voting histories. *The Voting Rights Act should be followed. *I recommend the use of the Efficiency Gap score to make sure each vote counts.</p> <p>There are other criteria to ensure fairness, such as maintaining communities of interest and avoiding slicing of cities and counties, but the above bulleted items are the most important in my mind.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Paula Hinton Jennings 213 Lakewater Drive Cary, NC 27511</p>
731		Aug 1 2017 2:42PM	Ms. Melanie Lane	<p>If you are on the right side of what the people want prove it by putting districts into the hands of non-partisans, show that we care about the state and country more than our parties. Win the hearts and minds of the people because you have right on your side, not because you've cherrv nicked your audience.</p>

732		Aug 1 2017 3:27PM	Roger Coates	<p>Dear legislators</p> <p>I know the democrats engaged in the same district packing to their advantage that the GOP is now doing. I'm a "good gov't" type who just wants a reasonable semblance of democracy-enhancing fairness to be made manifest in the required redistricting now underway. Please work for a balance that gives citizens a fair chance to have a real voice with their vote.</p>
733		Aug 1 2017 3:32PM	Ms. MARY CHEEK	<p>Thank you for your work</p> <p>I am writing to express my concern for the racial and political gerrymandering that defines the current congressional districts. I urge those tasked with redrawing district lines to perform their duties honestly so that all NC citizens can rest assured that their vote has meaning! Thank you</p>
734		Aug 1 2017 3:47PM	Mrs. Kellye Parks	<p>NO MORE GERRYMANDERING! I want fair re-districting. NC Legislators have been instructed to have the districts redrawn. There should be no more districting that gives less voice to people of color, or lower income!</p>
735		Aug 1 2017 4:42PM	Ms. Cathy Cole	<p>In the 2016 NCGA elections, per Ballotpedia, less than 15% of the races in the House and Senate were competitive</p> <p>When representatives are able to choose their voters - and thus are not accountable to a broad constituency - they can afford to play solely to their base</p> <p>This means not only that many interests are neglected in any given district, but also that more extreme interests/positions tend to prevail (polarization)</p> <p>Legal challenges to partisan districting have been costly for our state</p> <p>There have been over 30 court interventions in the redistricting process over the past 30 years in NC</p> <p>In the last 6 years alone, NC has paid over \$5 million for redistricting litigation</p> <p>Nonpartisan redistricting would make our elections more democratic and fair.</p> <p>A well-designed nonpartisan districting system would return to a system where voters choose their representatives instead of representatives choosing their voters.</p> <p>Nonpartisan redistricting is the best way to break the cycle of escalating “payback” between the political parties.</p> <p>Independent bodies that have no loyalty to a political party or vested interest in the outcome of elections are best positioned to draw district maps in ways that are fair and unbiased.</p>
736		Aug 1 2017 6:13PM	Dr. Paul Ringel	<p>My primary concern is that the redistricting process be transparent. These maps should not be drawn in a back room by one party, but in a bipartisan process that is transparent to the voters of North Carolina.</p>
737		Aug 1 2017 6:22PM	Ms. Sue McCorkle	<p>It is ridiculous to allow Thomas Hofeller to help with the redrawing of the districts, when he was part of the problem that got us into the gerrymandering fiasco in the first place. Redrawing should be done by a bi-partisan (or better yet, non-partisan) committee. This is a farce! I am very concerned and angry.</p>
738		Aug 1 2017 6:28PM	Ms. Sandra Howerton	<p>There should be absolutely no gerrymandering by either party. Districts should be drawn as compactly as possible by a nonpartisan commission or computer program. Voters should be able to choose their legislators: not legislators. their voters.</p>
739		Aug 1 2017 7:32PM	CASEY NEES	<p>Enough with the gerrymandering already....neither side should be subverting the process so that they can hold onto power. I say redistricting should be done by and independent 11 person council nominated by the governor using sitting NC supreme Court justices as oversight. The council itself should be made up NOT of politicians but rather one party official from each major and minor party, the balance to made up of educated professors from public universities. They draw the districts, the Supreme Court Justices give a yay or nay. In the case of a Nay then the council goes back to the drawing board. In the case of a second nay. Same thing. Third nay and the issue is turned over to arbitration by the federal election commission.</p>
740		Aug 1 2017 8:12PM	Mrs. Donna Mergliano	<p>Redistricting should follow standards: an open process, districts that are contiguous and compact, districts that recognize communities as well as city and county boundaries. Improved technology has taken the long used process of gerrymandering to the point where many North Carolinians cast votes that really don't count. We have too many uncontested districts and too many districts into which certain kinds of voters are packed to dilute their impact. North Carolinians are awakening to the unfairness of this process and to the fact that it completely undermines faith in our democracy. It's time to end gerrymandering and enable fair redistricting.</p>
741		Aug 1 2017 8:22PM	Ms. Deborah Pardue Shaw	<p>I think it is a right of every person to be able to vote and not be discriminated against because of the color of your skin. I feel like our nation and particularly our state has been guilty of this. The republican control of the house and senate in NC has regressed our state back to the 1960s. Pat McCrory has left his mark that will leave this state in recovery for years. Stop gerrymandering your way to political victory. Everything that Roy Copper does or tries to do is met with resistance. Republicans better watch out you may be looking for a job like Pat.</p>

742		Aug 1 2017 8:37PM	Mr. Christopher Dragga	<p>The current district maps make a mockery of the democratic principles upon which this country is founded. They effectively disenfranchise hundreds of thousands, if not millions, and deprive many North Carolinians of proper representation. In the long run, this can only hurt our state, as potential newcomers look at the political situation and decide that they would rather live somewhere with a genuine democracy.</p> <p>The districts should be drawn as neutrally as possible, without consideration for the politics of those who live there or the residences of current officials. They should make sense, aligning at both the House and the Senate as much as possible, and should reflect the boundaries of actual communities. Most importantly, they should comply with the Constitution and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Anything less would exacerbate an already shameful situation.</p>
743		Aug 1 2017 11:43PM	Ms. Theckla Sterrett	<p>This gerrymandering makes a mockery of the voting process. I know both parties do it or have done it. Now with computer analysis it is easier to assure a Republican win. That is unfair to the voting public. I want voting that is fair and open, avoids racial or partisan gerrymandering and allows voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around.</p>
744		Aug 2 2017 7:59AM	Ms. Rebecca Showalter	<p>Whatever side of the aisle you are on, it is time for a NON-PARTISAN drawing of legislative districts, here and across the country. Gerrymandering undermines democracy and make us into nothing but hypocrites, as we say we stand for our great democracy but do the opposite. I urge the NCGA to redraw these districts in a fair and just way without trying to draw them for partisan advantage. By doing that, then we can bring discussions back to good policy and finding compromise.</p> <p>I also ask that all these comments be read, discussed, pondered and provided to any person, consultant or legislative staff, that is involved in the redrawing of these maps. It is not acceptable to ask for comments but then not include them in the decision making process.</p> <p>Thank you, Becky Showalter NC Citizen, Mother, Engineer</p>
745		Aug 2 2017 8:24AM	Owen Guion	<p>The revised voting should be redrawn to be fair and impartial to ALL voters. I would urge the NCGA to step up and select an impartial third party to draw fair, impartial, compact district voting maps for North Carolina.</p>
746		Aug 2 2017 8:25AM	Mrs. Margaret Avery-Trujillo	NONPARTISAN redistricting !
747		Aug 2 2017 8:27AM	Karen Romo	Please please please do it before the midterms!!
748		Aug 2 2017 8:28AM	Beth Holloman	<p>Whatever side of the aisle you are on, it is time for a NON-PARTISAN drawing of legislative districts, here and across the country. Gerrymandering undermines democracy and make us into nothing but hypocrites, as we say we stand for our great democracy but do the opposite. I urge the NCGA to redraw these districts in a fair and just way without trying to draw them for partisan advantage. By doing that, then we can bring discussions back to good policy and finding compromise.</p> <p>I also ask that all these comments be read, discussed, pondered and provided to any person, consultant or legislative staff, that is involved in the redrawing of these maps. It is not acceptable to ask for comments but then not include them in the decision making process.</p> <p>Thank you, Beth Holloman NC Citizen, Retired teacher</p>
749		Aug 2 2017 8:31AM	Mrs. Heather Owen	<p>I really hope that the new districting lines are drawn with a bipartisan group. This has gone on too long and gerrymandering is now illegal. Do them right!</p>
750		Aug 2 2017 8:41AM	Mrs. Michelle Torres	We demand NON PARTISAN redistricting, for democracy's sake!
751		Aug 2 2017 9:02AM	Ms. Lynny Seiter	It is high time voting districts were drawn by a non-partisan group. ALL people should be fairly represented.
752		Aug 2 2017 9:07AM	Melissa Taylor	Please implement non-partisan redistricting. Every citizen has the right to vote.

753		Aug 2 2017 9:10AM	Mrs. Jennifer Filipowski	<p>I would like to request that the Redistricting Committee revise the senate / house / congressional districts so that, to the extent possible, those districts meet the following goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Districts shall comply with the United States Constitution and the United States voting rights act; • Congressional districts shall have equal population to the extent practicable, and state legislative districts shall have equal population to the extent practicable; • Districts shall be geographically compact and contiguous to the extent practicable; • District boundaries shall respect Communities of Interest to the extent practicable; • To the extent practicable, district lines shall use visible geographic features, city, town and county boundaries, and undivided census tracts; • To the extent practicable, competitive districts should be favored where to do so would create no significant detriment to the other goals; • Districts in the State may NOT be established with the major purpose of diluting the voting strength of any person, or group, including any political party, except as necessary to comply with the requirements of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. • The place of residence of any incumbent or political candidate shall not be considered in the creation of a map. Districts shall not be drawn for the purpose of favoring or discriminating against an incumbent, political candidate, or political party. <p>As used herein, a "Community of Interest" is a contiguous population which shares common social and economic interests that should be included within a single district for purposes of its effective and fair</p>
754		Aug 2 2017 9:17AM	Mrs. kate marks	<p>I would like to see district maps drawn free from partisan politics. I can understand the impetus but gerrymandering undermines confidence in elections and elected representatives. It is counterproductive and has made North Carolina a laughing stock on a national level. Remove politics from the districting maps and let the politics play out as they should in democratically elected governing legislature</p>
755		Aug 2 2017 9:40AM	Mr. Eric von Foerster	We need non-partisan redistricting. No more tipping the scales.
756		Aug 2 2017 9:45AM	Mr. Thomas Honeycutt	Partisan redistricting, no matter the party, has gotten too cutthroat. Think the Democrats will forgive you if they ever regain the majority? They'll cut this state up just as brutally to favor themselves.
757		Aug 2 2017 10:13AM	Mr. Joshua Lohmann	As a citizen and constituent, I am calling on the General Assembly to put in place NON-PARTISAN redistricting. The Supreme Court has even scolded North Carolina reps for RACIALLY gerrymandering with SURGICAL PRECISION! This flies in the face of the spirit of democracy. Fixing the race deprives us of democracy. I won't even begin to bring up other impediments, like shortening early voting & illegally purging voter rolls. North Carolina is one of the worst offenders and it is embarrassing! Restore North Carolina's honor. Restore democracy. We are considered a "flawed democracy" now, in part, due to efforts to suppress votes and impede democracy. Do the right thing. Go NON-PARTISAN.
758		Aug 2 2017 10:35AM	Maurice York	The redistricting should be undertaken by an independent, apolitical commission. The goal should be to have compact districts of roughly equal population, not tortured configurations designed to isolate voters on the basis of race or partv.
759		Aug 2 2017 10:42AM	Mrs. Peggy Ferebee	Once again NC is being told the current voting districts are illegal. As an unaffiliated voter I am tired of both parties playing games with our voting rights. To avoid any more wasted time and public money on this just establish a non-partisan redistricting commission to deal with it. It's a more just and logical way to do it. How we do it now is a disgrace and disenfranchises legal voters. I want legislators to know that they may be voted out of office and not sit in safe districts protected from the voters' input. Now is the time to act.
760		Aug 2 2017 10:45AM	Ms. Holly Barcelo	<p>Third party, non-partisan map drawers shouds ensure that it is possible for Black voters to elect their candidates of choice. Also, no dividing compact Black populations to weaken their power, per the Voting Rights Act.</p> <p>In addition to the federal Voting Rights Act, maps must abide by the US and NC constitutions and laws.</p> <p>"One person, one vote," means districts must be very nearly equal in population.</p> <p>Map drawers should create compact districts, without odd tentacles and that don't skip over areas or join two areas at just one point on the map.</p> <p>Count incarcerated persons as residents of their pre-incarceration home or family residence for purposes of redistricting.</p> <p>Keep it non-partisan; drawers shall not use the addresses of current lawmakers, or the party affiliation or voting history of voters, or other data to help a party or politician.</p> <p>Map drawers must avoid dividing a "community of interest," such as people with similar cultural, ethnic and economic interests; a local government district; neighborhoods that have worked together on issues; and other relationships that can be documented to show common interests.Unless these are separated by County boundaries. Map drawers should make every effort to keep counties whole. If counties or towns must be split, a statement must explain why.</p>

761		Aug 2 2017 10:56AM	Mr. Larry Hannon	We need fairly drawn congressional districts to make democracy work for ALL of us!
762		Aug 2 2017 10:57AM	Mrs. Katherine Dreyer	It is time for fair redistricting in North Carolina. Republicans have illegally gerrymandered for too long...the courts have spoken. Of course I don't trust the Republicans to do a fair job. So, we'll be watchina closelv.
763		Aug 2 2017 10:58AM	Ms. Sharon Ellison	Please adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps. NC voters deserve a fair representation and voice in the political process. Please exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps. Please draw compact districts that keep communities together
764		Aug 2 2017 10:59AM	Ms. Marlene Goland	I urge the General Assembly to redraw the State districting maps in a non-partisan and non-racial formula. The time has come in our State to end this current unfair redistricting and move forward with a map that will allow fair elections of our representative to Raleigh and to Washington. Thank you
765		Aug 2 2017 10:59AM	Ms. Katherine Soleil	adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps draw compact districts that keep communities together
766		Aug 2 2017 10:59AM	Dr. John Barnshaw	Fair maps and general redistricting are essential to our representative democracy as the Founders Constitution did not envision a party system. For example, in 2014, the 13 United States Congressional Districts in North Carolina were represented by 10 Republicans and 3 Democrats with a near 50-50 split in voting. If Democrats were allowed to draw the district lines they could have drawn lines that would have sent 9 Democrats and 4 Republicans to the House. Using fair maps, we could send 5 Republicans, 5 Democrats and 3 districts that would be completely up for grabs which would enable a more vigorous debate and electoral outcome. Already 23 states have nonpartisan voting in elections. North Carolina should do the same.
767		Aug 2 2017 10:59AM	Peri Alletto	I want non partisan map with no party offiliations with continuous communities.
768		Aug 2 2017 11:04AM	Mr. Alan Goland	I urge the General Assembly to redraw the State districting maps in a non-partisan and non-racial formula. The time has come in our State to end this current unfair redistricting and move forward with a map that will allow fair elections of our representative to Raleigh and to Washington. Thank you.
769		Aug 2 2017 11:05AM	Mr. Michael Nevin	You have an opportunity to show some leadership that may be of importance to you in the future. Redistrict with a non-legislative method or redistrict in a manner that ends gerrymandering. Either party should be winning or losing elections on the basis of merit and ideas, not on gerrymandered districts. Use a method that doesn't lock in a district to a particular party. It's fair and reasonable.
770		Aug 2 2017 11:06AM	Ms. Margaret Silvers	I am commenting to ask that the committee adopt a non-partisan process for drawing new voting district maps, including things like not using political information about voter registration data or past election results when drawing maps and keeping districts compact and sensibly shaped to keep communities together. Thank you for considering my concerns
771		Aug 2 2017 11:06AM	Alexander Donaldson	I urge the Redistricting Committee to (1) adopt a non-partisan process for drawing up new voting district maps, (2) exclude political information such as voter registration data, prior election results or residential address of current incumbents, and (3) draw compact districts that reflect geographic communities. I have complained for decades about the gerrymandering by both parties in our state so this is not a partisan issue. This is about common sense, fairness and community something we all strive for and can support.
772		Aug 2 2017 11:06AM	Karen Macklin	Please adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps. The maps should not be based upon political information such as voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live. The maps should include compact districts which keep communities together. Thanks
773		Aug 2 2017 11:07AM	Peggy Nance Lyle	NC must act now to comply with redistricting for voters in our State.
774		Aug 2 2017 11:11AM	Mrs. Ann Torok	Now is the Time for legislators to draw fair district maps. Please be conscientious about your responsibility to the voters. Draw districts that are fair (and that each voter counts) and as compact as possible. Do not take race or politics or the address of incumbents or candidates in your consideration. Thank you.
775		Aug 2 2017 11:14AM	Ms. Karin Griffiths	Please try to be fair and make the redistricting totally non-partisan. Every vote has to count the same and in the system we have now that is not the case. Thank you Karin Griffiths
776		Aug 2 2017 11:16AM	Mrs. Aleta Galusha	During your meeting on August 4, 2017 about drawing new maps for voting. I just want to say there should be NO looking at past voting when these maps are drawn.These maps should be independent of where incumbents live.This should be a non-partisan effort.PLEASE draw compact districts, not ones that stretch for miles and look like a snake on a map. I want to see a reasonable map!

777		Aug 2 2017 11:16AM	Mrs. Rebecca Felton	As a citizen of N.C., I strongly support the establishment of a bi-partisan committee to determine districts that are fair to all of the citizens of North Carolina. The League of Women voters has clearly demonstrated that such a committee can be successful and we need to move forward now with this process.
778		Aug 2 2017 11:20AM	Mr. greg gillis	It is tragic that North Carolina has become the least democratic state in the U.S. It is even more tragic that the legislature remains unrepentant. Please do right by the people of NC and reapportion the state on a fair and iust basis.
779		Aug 2 2017 11:21AM	Mrs. Beth Darnell	If we do not have fair and equal districts it causes the people who do get voted it to not have valid claims to their jobs. If a candidate wins by an unfair, rigged system how can that representative feel like he/she is supported by their constituents? Cheaters are not winners. Please help make our State elections legitimate!
780		Aug 2 2017 11:23AM	Mrs. Sharron Parker	Please, please let our legislative districts be redrawn in a non-partisan way, so that we are a true DEMOCRACY.
781		Aug 2 2017 11:28AM	Ms. Sharron Probyn	I live in Wisconsin but all states should have fair and equal re-districting maps and a non-partisan process for drawing new maps that exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps as well as compact districts that keep communities together. We need to do the same in Wisconsin. We have never had the majority of the districts in our state red before. There is something very fishy going on and it needs to stop now and become a legal and fair process, not favoring one party or another. Thank you.
782		Aug 2 2017 11:29AM	Dr. Joseph McCarthy	As a registered Republican, I support the goals of common cause in its quest for non-partisan redistricting. What goes around comes around; I do not wish to see either party suffer because the other party can always retaliate. We don't need internecine fighting.
783		Aug 2 2017 11:30AM	Ms. Aiden Carson	Now that the legislature has an opportunity to remedy the illegally gerrymandered district map, I strongly urge you to do it right this time. Let's avoid court challenges by using a non-partisan process to create compact, contiguous districts which recognize municipal and county boundaries. Partisan data and use of incumbents' addresses should not be allowed. Use efficiency gap measurements to assure politically neutral districts. Be transparent.
784		Aug 2 2017 11:30AM	Mr. David Gauck	Its about time districts are set up by BOTH parties, in a sensible, compact map (not like one Picasso might draw). Previous voting tendencies and where incumbents are located should NOT be considered. Let the voters choose who is 'safe' and who isn't.
785		Aug 2 2017 11:32AM	Ms. Tatjana Adams	Just in case y'all have not noticed, given that it is now obvious to the average voter that money has a stranglehold on the political process, and that we are becoming more of an oligarchy by the day, the only thing standing between a (still) peaceful society in the US and the outbreak of violent forces is the fragile belief in the integrity of voting. One would have to be oblivious to the violent beginnings and so-called "resolution" of economic disparities in this country over the course of US history (i.e., civil war) to not acknowledge that BOTH parties are playing with fire when they undermine the last hope people have for having a say in this (barely still) Republic. A reminder from Merriam-Webster on the definition of a republic, as this appears to have slipped away from us: "- a government in which supreme power resides in a body of citizens entitled to vote and is exercised by elected officers and representatives responsible to them and governing according to law." I am humble enough to know that yes, the unthinkable that is happening in many other countries can also break out here if the belief in voting is gutted. I beg the legislature to do the right thing for all of us, including their own children and grandchildren (!) to restore faith in the voting process by: non-partisan redistricting, ensuring balloting security and ending voter purges.
786		Aug 2 2017 11:33AM	Mr. Eric Marsh	We really need districts drawn independently rather than by the party in power. Iowa has gone with independently defined districts. Why cannot North Carolina ?
787		Aug 2 2017 11:45AM	Mr. John Blair	Create fair districting. We are watching.
788		Aug 2 2017 11:45AM	Dr. Dennis Nagy	I want voting maps drawn free from partisan politics. There are plenty of modern software/data-based methods for doing this automatically to create equally-sized (population) districts and geographically centralized district areas with regularly-shaped boundaries. Anything other than that is just old-fashioned partisan game-playing. It's time, finally, in 2017 to end the games and return elections to their real purpose of debating issues and selecting cadidates based on those issues.

789		Aug 2 2017 11:47AM	Mr. David Finck	When our legislators pick their voters, instead of the voters choosing their legislators, the push and pull in the marketplace of ideas that leads to progress for everyone has failed. Democracy itself has failed as a plausible and effective means of government of, by, and for the people. It means that government has been captured by a small segment of society and representation of the divergent viewpoints has been lost to the eventual detriment of all. In a world which we all characterize by relationships -- up-down, conservative-liberal, black-white -- the lack of meaningful dialogue, dialogue that can actually result in new understandings and compromise, leads inevitably to the polarization, contempt, and hate that have infected our government and our society at all levels. I firmly believe that our continued existence as an effective democracy and leading light of the world rests on the ability of our elected leaders to trust that there is a collective wisdom in the voice of the people, if only the people are allowed to express themselves in an unfettered manner. Nowhere is this more important than at the ballot box. I believe it is of utmost importance that voting districts be redrawn in a manner that best represents the diversity of thought among our people and should be in no way "gamed" to lend a strategic advantage to either of our dominant political parties.
790		Aug 2 2017 11:49AM	Glenda Keel	I urge that gerrymandering be eliminated in NC. Districts should be drawn in a nonpartisan nanner. The Iowa and California models are good examples of methodology. Keep our communities whole and our districts comoact.
791		Aug 2 2017 11:50AM	Ms. Beth Stanberry	Give us fair, constitutional, non-partisan districts, now. It may not be easy, but it is necessary. You can't speak for "the people" if you've weaseled the districts. Please adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps excluding political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps. Thank you.
792		Aug 2 2017 11:54AM	Ms. Jill Gulliksen	I support non partisan redistricting because gerrymandering is undemocratic, unrepresentative, and unfair - particularly in NC. In partisan districting systems, "representatives choose their voters, rather than voters choosing their representatives." In the 2016 NCGA elections, Republicans received 52% of votes for the House and 56% of votes for the Senate - but they won over 60% of House seats and 70% of Senate seats. The Electoral Integrity Project, which measures the the quality of elections worldwide, gave NC a score of 7/100 on the integrity of its voting districts, lower than any other state - or country - analyzed. Gerrymandering decreases competition, and contributes to political polarization. In the 2016 NCGA elections, per Ballotpedia, less than 15% of the races in the House and Senate were competitive. When representatives are able to choose their voters - and thus are not accountable to a broad constituency - they can afford to play solely to their base. This means not only that many interests are neglected in any given district, but also that more extreme interests/positions tend to prevail (polarization). Legal challenges to partisan districting have been costly for our state. There have been over 30 court interventions in the redistricting process over the past 30 years in NC. In the last 6 years alone, NC has paid over \$5 million for redistricting litigation. Nonpartisan redistricting would make our elections more democratic and fair. A well-designed nonpartisan districting system would return to a
793		Aug 2 2017 12:04PM	Mrs. Hazel Poolos	I want fair district lines. I want communities kept intact. I want no partisan information affecting these redistricted lines. Our American democracy must not be rigged for either party.
794		Aug 2 2017 12:15PM	Mr. Matthew Mengert	Take politics out of the equation. Keep an eye on the efficiency gap. Lets stop wasting the states money on this stuff, its time to get back to business. Everyone will be satisfied if an independent commission is assigned to do this work. Why busy legislators with this nonsense drawing? Thank you
795		Aug 2 2017 12:18PM	Ms. Carol Strickland	There are computer programs that will construct neutral, fair districts. We should use a program (making sure it's not biased, to formulate our districts. We must have fair districting! Thank you.

796		Aug 2 2017 12:25PM	Elliott Feldman	<p>In recent years the NCGA has been enacting legislation that is extreme and not consistent with the views of a large portion, perhaps a majority, of North Carolinians.</p> <p>Part of the reason lies in the fact that Democratic voters are underrepresented because of gerrymandered districts. Democratic voters are concentrated--packed into a few districts, allowing others to be largely Republican.</p> <p>It is time to have a more representative NCGA which can be achieved if Senate and House legislative districts are fairly drawn without partisan bias. This means turning over the process to a non-partisan committee or, at least a bipartisan committee.</p> <p>With compact districts drawn without partisan bias, legislation will be more representative of majority opinion and will better enable accountability since legislators will know that they can be voted out if</p>
797		Aug 2 2017 12:29PM	Kathy Von St Paul	<p>Pl awe realize that the citizens of this state deserve an intellectual gent, nonpartisan plan. We recognize the foolery that goes on and are quite. Arable of. Going all of you out with appropriate redistoring so that our vote counts.</p>
798		Aug 2 2017 12:30PM	Ms. CJ Breland	<p>A bipartisan committee needs to do the redistricting. Nothing else will be fair.</p>
799		Aug 2 2017 12:33PM	Martha Whitney	<p>I encourage you to: adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps, exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps; and draw compact districts that keep communities together. Please make voting fair in NC.</p>
800		Aug 2 2017 12:44PM	Mrs. Linda Linfors	<p>I am passionately in favor of adopting a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps which will exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps. I urge the Assembly to draw compact districts that keep communities together. This way the Democrats don't get to gerrymander the districts when they get back in power. This is the way to be fair to all voters in NC.</p>
801		Aug 2 2017 12:45PM	Mr. George Linfors	<p>We need to adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps which will exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps. I urge the Assembly to draw compact districts that keep communities together. This way the Democrats don't get to gerrymander the districts when they get back in power. This is the way to be fair to all voters in NC.</p>
802		Aug 2 2017 12:45PM	Mrs. Christine Swanson	<p>It is time to address fair redistricting. As a State we need to have a nonpartisan process/Commission for drawing legislative maps. We should not consider past election results or be looking to see how heavily a district votes. A district should not encompass multiple counties when it can be avoided. example: someone in Guilford County representing someone in Durham County. Please do the right thing and stop showcasing our State as a national embarrassment. We the people of NC are better than what you have put forward.</p>
803		Aug 2 2017 12:50PM	Ms. Dana Courtney	<p>As a regular voter I believe in the importance of voter participation. I also want to believe we have a fair chance for every voter to know our vote counts. I think connected communities are best able to determine needs and to advocate for those needs through Fair Maps - Maps not drawn on race or political party advantages. I expect the Redistricting Committee to use the best advice from non-partial experts to draw the new maps. Frankly I would feel more safe if an independent body were responsible. Thank you!</p>
804		Aug 2 2017 1:08PM	Mrs. Kathleen Hoffmann	<p>For decades, NC has used a system in which the party in control of the legislature also controlled the redistricting process and managed that process to ensure voting maps that heavily favored one party or the other. This process has now become so expertly tailored using voter data that it produces many voting districts whose geographical distortion is patently absurd to look at on a map. The courts have had no difficulty recognizing that this is an assault on the democratic process.</p> <p>In addition to the courts, a majority of North Carolinians support independent redistricting, as shown by a January survey from Public Policy Polling that found 59 percent of voters in favor of making the map-drawing process nonpartisan, with just 15 percent opposed to reforming the current system.</p> <p>It is the job of the General Assembly to commit to an unbiased, nonpartisan process for drawing new voter maps immediately and continuing in the future. These maps must not be based on political information like voter registration data or where incumbents live. The maps should reflect coherent geographic areas that keep communities together so that everyone's votes contribute to the selection process of our government representatives.</p> <p>Listen to the courts and the people of North Carolina. We want free and fair elections now and in the future.</p>

805		Aug 2 2017 1:08PM	James Hitch	Last fall I saw a map which was generated by an independent organization which showed districts pretty much as squares. It was explained that a couple of areas weren't quite squares because additional area was needed to equal the population in those districts. This seems like a fair way to set up the districts and the work has already been done
806		Aug 2 2017 1:10PM	Marna Doucette	Gerrymandering is against the NC Constitution requirements for one person one vote and whole counties. End the unconstitutional practice and return power to the citizens!
807		Aug 2 2017 1:18PM	Ms. Lyric Kinard	Please - gerrymandering on the part of BOTH parties has to end now. The citizens of North Carolina do not feel represented by their elected officials. We feel that elections have been stolen because of extreme gerrymandering and that the voice of the people needs to be heard. Since a majority of the joint redistricting committee has supported impartial redistricting in the past, I urge you to adopt a nonpartisan system for moving forward on new district plans.
808		Aug 2 2017 1:36PM	Mr. Jim Westerman	Please redistrict in a nonpartisan way that avoids gerrymandering and race. Thank you, Jim Westerman
809		Aug 2 2017 1:39PM	Dr. Maria Salgado	We need fair maps that reflect the realities on the ground rather than the ideology of those doing the redistricting.
810		Aug 2 2017 1:40PM	Mr. Randy Neighbarger	I urge the committee to: 1. adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps 2. exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps 3. draw compact districts that keep communities together
811		Aug 2 2017 1:41PM	Ms. Terra Fox	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate criteria are essential to create districts that reflect voter choices rather than legislators choosing their voters. • Partisan data and the use of incumbents’ addresses should be prohibited from use. The efficiency gap should be used to assure that politically neutral districts are drawn. • Voting districts should be compact and contiguous as measured by PolsbyPopper Test or other mathematical assessments. Political boundaries (county, city, precinct) and communities of interest should be maintained as much as possible. • The “opportunity for protected classes of voters to elect the candidates of their choice” as required by the Voting Rights Act should be measured by polarized voting analysis data. • Adopt a transparent process including details such as the data assumptions used and live-streaming all meetings to built citizen confidence of the process. • Please let me know if there is any specific information that I can provide.
812		Aug 2 2017 1:49PM	Mr. Jerry Lambert	The Legislature needs to appoint a non-partisan redistricting commission to draw the legislative districts now and for the future!
813		Aug 2 2017 2:01PM	Amy Hanson	Gerrymandering is the biggest threat to our democracy and is the biggest culprit in the dysfunction of our government. It causes a huge imbalance and disrupts the equality of votes. It hurts both parties at different points in time, and hurts the people ALL of the time. Non-partisan boundaries for elections are CRUCIAL. I think they should be created by computer algorithms based on population size and communities with NO INPUT
814		Aug 2 2017 2:04PM	Amy Hanson	Gerrymandering is the biggest threat to our democracy and is the biggest culprit in the dysfunction of our government. It causes a huge imbalance and disrupts the equality of votes. It hurts both parties at different points in time, and hurts the people ALL of the time. It results in litigation after litigation and billions of dollars of taxpayer money wasted on lawsuits of one faction of government against the other. We need real competition for government positions, real representation by elected officials, and people who are willing to compromise on solutions that work for everyone. Non-partisan boundaries for elections are CRUCIAL. I think they should be created by computer algorithms based on population size and communities with NO INPUT about race, gender, or political affiliation
815		Aug 2 2017 2:13PM	Mr. William Blaine	Redistricting should be done on an non-partisan basis. It should not consider any political information such as voter registration information, past election results or where politicians live. The districts should be compact and simple in shape and form, keeping communities together

816		Aug 2 2017 2:15PM	Ms. Susan Koontz	<p>This is the criteria I would like to be used when drawing the new maps:</p> <p>1. Politically Neutral – No addresses of candidates or incumbents should be used, and residents’ voting histories should not be considered.</p> <p>2. Compact and Contiguous – Voters within a district should not be unnecessarily dispersed, and no voting district may be geographically divided, or split, by another district, i.e. all portions of a district must connect.</p> <p>3. Respect Boundaries – Avoid dividing counties and municipalities where possible.</p> <p>4. Protect Communities of Interest – Avoid dividing communities of interest where possible. Communities of interest typically have social, cultural, racial, ethnic, and/or economic interests in common.</p> <p>5. Transparent Process – The process of creating maps should be transparent, providing maps as soon as possible, live-streaming meetings, and allowing the public to provide suggestions for changes to the draft maps.</p>
817		Aug 2 2017 2:18PM	Dr. Robert Hawkins	<p>Our forefathers generally did a great job in writing the Constitution. But they probably didn't expect that there would be such partisan extremism as we have today, so they left it to the legislators to do the redistricting. Sadly--with the help of computers--that has allowed a very undemocratic process to result. The product is gerrymandering in its extreme. What we now need is a process that will reinstate the "one man, one vote" concept, with voters choosing their legislative representatives, according to their best judgement. Every person, including every legislator, knows that the present process is UNDEMOCRATIC and should be changed. Please make it a democratic process.</p>
818		Aug 2 2017 2:18PM	Sean Pratt	<p>We have been in court over these maps since they were made years ago. We should have a Non Partisan Redistricting Commission so that this completely political and racial gerrymandering can no longer occur. The people in charge of drawing the new maps have had plenty of time to draw them and shouldn't be given an extension. They need to also establish a Non Partisan Redistricting Commission so that we won't waste so much time and money fighting illegal maps in court.</p> <p>There is a proposed law that should have been passed many years ago, but should pass now so we aren't in this situation again. The majority of people in NC want there to be Non Partisan Redistricting. Let's make that happen. And let's not racially or politically gerrymander these maps due on September 1.</p>
819		Aug 2 2017 2:22PM	Ms. Lewise Busch	<p>Please use fair, non-partisan guidelines in developing congressional district lines. The guidelines should not include residences of incumbents or voting demographic data. I hope they will include equality of voter numbers, contiguity and reasonable concentration of shape. The principle of one person-one vote should be observed. Since people who are incarcerated cannot vote, their home residences should be considered their residences. Thank you for attending to my concerns.</p>
820		Aug 2 2017 2:24PM	Mrs. Ann Parvin	<p>Please adopt a non partisan procedure for redistricting. Overwhelmingly supported by NC citizens who are sick of the political games and the resulting waste of state resources in legal battles. Many in legislature support; stop blocking a non partisan approach. Get it done right.</p>
821		Aug 2 2017 2:31PM	Mrs. Diane Geitner	<p>We need fair unbiased districts that encourage people to vote and to bring Nc into the civilized world</p>
822		Aug 2 2017 2:56PM	Mr. Mark Nippert	<p>If you are going to sabotage representation, please don't turn around and tell me with a straight face that you believe in representative democracy.</p>
823		Aug 2 2017 2:58PM	David Meeker	<p>Could we make the drawing of these districts non partisan as well as not based on race?</p>
824		Aug 2 2017 2:58PM	Leslie Kern	<p>Please create a fair map for districts for NC. It is necessary for our democracy.We are watching.</p>
825		Aug 2 2017 2:59PM	Elaine Tobin	<p>I have recently moved here and I am appalled by the legislature's failure to create districts that are fair and so all voters can have equal representation. We should have a state government that is truly of the people. by the people and for the people.</p>
826		Aug 2 2017 3:19PM	Dr. Erica Carroll	<p>It is disheartening to know that our representatives will not use a non-partisan entity to draw voting districts. A non-biased creator (even a computer) is so obviously the only way the districts will actually be created fairly. I am so very sad that our State does not prioritize hearing from its citizens (by letting us vote fairly). NC is only interested in maintaining political power of individuals and parties. In this way, we are no better than a dictatorship. Please, use non-biased people (or computers) to draw our voting districts and stop silencing North Carolinians.</p>

827		Aug 2 2017 3:22PM	Ms. Rebecca Carina	As I learn more about legislative redistricting requirements and process, obviously it can and has become a much more complicated process than need be. Given the primary intent is for all NC citizens to have equal votes in the NC Legislature and the US House, the primary criteria for every district is one rep per a given size population and take into consideration Voting Rights Act. In addition, the only mention of terrain is respect for county lines, often drawn just like state boundaries with respect to rivers, mountains, and other environmental factors. There is nothing in law that I see that would allow a political party to structure districts to favor their own future as a representative. Therefore, it makes most sense for neutral group to take on this task. If members of a political party do a good job representing their constituents, they will be reelected. If they don't, they need to leave. Dominating by creating an illegitimate majority is a coward's way and will not survive in the long run. So be neutral and make this redistricting process practical that facilitates the voting of residents and not structured to try to get a particular outcome. Let's make it easy for people to come voice their choices.
828		Aug 2 2017 3:24PM	Mary McMillan	I am in favor of nonpartisan redistricting. I think that members of the League of Women Voters could do the job quite well.
829		Aug 2 2017 3:24PM	Ms. Scott Pope	North Carolina is a beautiful state with laws and voting maps that are, well less than beautiful. Please insure that the new voting district maps represent the voters, not the politicians. Thank you in advance for doing the right/correct thing. Scott Pope
830		Aug 2 2017 3:24PM	Mrs. Linda McPHAIL	I would like to urge the legislature to be completely non-partisan when redrawing legislative districts in NC. Please use the following guidelines in designing the process: 1) exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live, and 2) draw compact districts that keep communities together. Thank you for your consideration.
831		Aug 2 2017 3:28PM	Dr. Pamela Schwingl	I support a nonpartisan redistricting commission to be formed to create fair maps based on models put forward by FairVote.org. Generally, the commission should be mandated to put forward a one-person-one-vote map scheme to maximize voter efficiency, and thereby enhance democratic norms and values. I want to be in a competitive district, hear both sides of an argument by candidates, and know that my representative is not looking over his left or right shoulder ONLY, but is listening to all of his constituency. I want to support a democratic, not oligarchical system in this country.
832		Aug 2 2017 3:30PM	Mrs. Jennifer Williams	I do not believe either political party can be trusted to create fair electoral maps. For this reason, I am requesting independent redistricting. The people of NC deserve completely FAIR electoral maps. Providing us with less than that is not only shirking your duty, it is against every oath of office you took. Thanks
833		Aug 2 2017 3:36PM	Mr. Francis Werner	We need to eliminate gerrymandering and have non-partisan voting districts so the voters can pick their candidates rather than the candidates picking their voters. This is extremely important to have an accurate representation of the voters in NC! The overly Republican legislature in NC represents, at best, maybe 30% of the NC population. We need non-partisan voting districts!
834		Aug 2 2017 3:41PM	Mr. William Garrard	It is high time our state adopted a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps. The party in power should not be the one who decides but the people. And the process should exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps. This should not be based on keeping the incumbents in power or defeating them if they are not in power. Let us have competitive districts. And draw compact districts so that keep communities together. Our city has three congress persons representing us which is ridiculous.
835		Aug 2 2017 3:46PM	Mrs. Jane Gorski	Please use this opportunity to create fair maps for NC. Our state has been plagued by gerrymandering for decades. It makes our elections unfair to voters with little options and makes our representatives nonresponsive to the concerns of their constituents. I urge you to adopt a nonpartisan process for creating election districts and exclude political voter registration data from the process. Also, draw compact districts that keep communities together as those who live together should share a common representative.
836		Aug 2 2017 3:49PM	Ingrid McCausland	Make districts equal in population. Create compact districts, without odd tentacles. Compactness can be evaluated with mathematical measures. Draw districts that don't skip over areas or join two areas at just one point on the map. Map drawers should not use the addresses of current lawmakers, or the party affiliation or voting history of voters, or other data to help a party. Map drawers must avoid dividing a "community of interest," such as people with similar cultural, ethnic and economic interests Nevery effort to keep counties whole. If counties or towns must be split, a statement must explain why. Before it is approved, a map must be evaluated for overall racial bias

837		Aug 2 2017 3:49PM	Mr. ted frazer	<p>Please adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps</p> <p>Please exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps</p> <p>Please draw compact districts that keep communities together</p>
838		Aug 2 2017 3:49PM	Ms. T S	<p>I'm not sure where to begin. I believe in honesty. This state, as said by the activist Shaun King, and others, is the Mississippi of today. I'm ashamed of North Carolina. Politicians representing this state should be ashamed of themselves. You folks have spent your time and energy trying to solidify white/Republican control of this state. You are indicative of a dying breed of white people who are determined to rule over everybody else. I'm sick of it. We deserve better. What you stand for is immoral and disgusting.</p>
839		Aug 2 2017 4:03PM	Ms. Jessica Levasseur	<p>This committee must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps 2. exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps, and 3. draw compact districts that keep communities together. <p>North Carolinians deserve fair voting opportunities. It is what Democracies are built on.</p>
840		Aug 2 2017 4:04PM	Karen Floyd	<p>Hi,</p> <p>I have comments on the criteria that should be used to redraw the voting maps that have been ordered by the courts:</p> <p>I urge my lawmakers to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps 2.exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps 3.draw compact districts that keep communities together <p>Thank you for heeding my comments and making our elections FAIR and DEMOCRATIC!</p> <p>Sincerely,</p>
841		Aug 2 2017 4:10PM	Ms. Diane Dotson	<p>To be uphold the values of our great democracy, we need nonpartisan redistricting. Protect the constituents, do not exploit their views.</p>
842		Aug 2 2017 4:16PM	Mrs. Lois Hinson	<p>Please use a fair process and draw fair maps.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps. 2. Exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps. 3. Draw compact districts that keep communities together.
843		Aug 2 2017 4:22PM	Mrs. Marcia Welsh	<p>We need non partisan redistricting. There is already a bill for this, with bipartisan support, that Rep. Moore refuses to let come to the floor. Unbelievable!</p>
844		Aug 2 2017 4:36PM	Mr. Michael McGowan	<p>We need for redistricting to be done on a fair nonpartisan basis !!!</p>
845		Aug 2 2017 4:44PM	Mr. Phil Fonville	<p>In addition to the items below, I urge General Assembly to appoint a new, bipartisan committee to draw the new maps, to avoid using the outside consultant who assisted in drawing the current maps and to comply fully with the courts order.</p> <p>Race is Key: Map drawers shall ensure that it is possible for Black voters to elect their candidates of choice. Also, dividing compact Black populations to weaken their power is prohibited. These are central requirements of the Voting Rights Act.</p> <p>Obey Laws: In addition to the federal Voting Rights Act, maps must abide by the US and NC constitutions and laws.</p> <p>"One person, one vote:" means districts must be very nearly equal in population.</p> <p>Geographic Compactness: Map drawers shall create compact districts, without odd tentacles. Compactness can be evaluated with mathematical measures.</p> <p>Contiguity: Draw districts that don't skip over areas or join two areas at just one point on the map.</p> <p>Count Incarcerated Persons: as residents of their pre-incarceration home or family residence for purposes of redistricting.</p> <p>No Favoritism: Map drawers shall not use the addresses of current lawmakers, or the party affiliation or voting history of voters, or other data to help a party or politician.</p> <p>Respect Communities of Interest: Map drawers must avoid dividing a "community of interest," such as people with similar cultural, ethnic,</p>
846		Aug 2 2017 5:06PM	Mr. David Nelson	<p>We can no longer tolerate immoral attempts to redistrict to favor party or race or any additional characteristics of people. With an eye to existing political boundaries, such as precinct or county, districting should be by population.</p> <p>An independent redistricting process is essential to allow voters to choose their representatives and not to prevent legislators from choosing their voters.</p>

860		Aug 2 2017 7:02PM	Dr. Magaretha Herman	Our legislative districts must be compact, have an equal population, avoid unnecessary division of counties. I do not want our districts to be drawn for partisan advantage--I want every district to have competitive races so that we voters have real choices and do not see hallots where candidates are unnonosed.
861		Aug 2 2017 7:33PM	Mary Hughes Brookhart	Please take this opportunity to show our state and our nation that we can set up fair districts as neither the Democrats or Republicans have done in the past. Make the process non-partisan, keep communities together, and have the redistricting done with no attention to the politics and voting history of the area. Thanks!!!
862		Aug 2 2017 7:35PM	Ms. Dona Koeberl	Fair voting district should be: Complete cities or counties, including centers and suburbs, or divisions of those geographic areas, divided with straight lines into halves, quarters,thirds, to keep the numbers in the districts more nearly even.
863		Aug 2 2017 7:49PM	Mrs. Whitney Clarke	Must be non-partisan!!!!
864		Aug 2 2017 7:51PM	Dr. Mons Hegarty	Let's draw fair maps - not consult voting records or registration, address of Candidates
865		Aug 2 2017 8:13PM	Mr. James Alexander	I would like to express my strong support for a establishing a non-partisan approach to redistricting. Legislative districts need to be drawn in a geographically logical manner and without regard to party affiliations so that all voters are fairly represented regardless of their party affiliation and regardless of which party is currently in power. I am expressing this opinion as someone who is currently registered as an unaffiliated voter.
866		Aug 2 2017 8:22PM	Ms. Janet Hancock	I believe that voting is a fundamental citizen right that must be guaranteed and that fair electoral maps are essential to a functioning democracy. I understand that the General Assembly is currently setting the criteria to be used to redraw North Carolina's legislative maps. I urge you to support criteria and processes to create fair maps by: Disclosing all criteria and assumptions used on a timely basis as part of the public map review process Not setting partisan targets for election outcomes or purposely protecting incumbents Excluding data on voters' party registration and past voting Excluding data on incumbents' or candidates' addresses Excluding data on race and ethnicity except where necessary to comply with federal law Ensuring the “opportunity for protected classes of voters to elect the candidates of their choice” as required by the Voting Rights Act, including the use of standard methods of polarized voting analysis, such as Bivariate Ecological Regression Analysis, and the reporting of the results by district for each set of maps Strictly applying the Stephenson process to define VRA districts and to draw county clusters that comply with North Carolina's Whole County Provision Using accepted measures of compactness that measure both the extent to which each district is spread out from its center (e.g., Reock and Convex Hull) and how smooth or contorted each district is (e.g., Polsby-Popper and Schwartzberg) and then making the results of this analysis available for each district and each set of maps Reporting the efficiency gap for each district and set of districts after drawing each set of maps (but not using partisan data to draw the maps) Making maps available for review and comment by the public in
867		Aug 2 2017 8:23PM	Mrs. Carol Ann Minor	Now is the time to make fair without gerrymandering district maps so we can stop wasting time, money and grief. Thank you.
868		Aug 2 2017 8:24PM	Mrs. Betsy Webster	Racial and political gerrymandering need to end
869		Aug 2 2017 8:26PM	Ms. Bu Brenowitz	Everyone no matter what their race or party affiliation should have the right to vote in a fair non partisan way. What is this country coming to?
870		Aug 2 2017 8:54PM	Ms. Bridget J Dunford	I fully want and expect a non-partisan process for drawing new voter maps. Exclude political voter registration data and other searches that would delineate political bias. Districts need to be compact and keep communities together. Each vote needs to count. Draw applicale mans!
871		Aug 2 2017 8:57PM	Ms. Cheri Ewald	To the NC Representatives on the Redistricting Committee: Thank you for your service as Representatives in our General Assembly. As you work through developing a redistricting plan for North Carolina, I ask that you: - adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps - exclude political information such as voter registration data, past election results, or where incumbents live when drawing maps - draw compact districts that keep communities together. Thank you. Regards, Cheri Ewald

872		Aug 2 2017 9:01PM	Mr. Michael garrett	Put the districts back the way they were before they were changed illegally based on were the majority of the black people lived. If you can't see how that was wrong to do then I don't see how you even do you job in the first place.Just draw the district back the way they were before you'll decided to draw them illegal based solely on race. Talk about decrimenation, that's a perfect example of decrimenation again't the white race , but you don't here about nobody standing up for the injustice those illegal district that were drawn. Come on just do your job it's not that hard to draw those lines. Stand up and be a man !! This has been going on for over twenty years. Draw the lines the way they are supposed to be . Tell the the people to deal with .
873		Aug 2 2017 9:11PM	Mr. Johnny Wunder	I want North Carolina with the upcoming redistricting plan to be the pathfinder for the automated, transparent open source voting district software that only considers population, geography and community boundaries when composing new districts. North Carolina's voting district algorithm should be good enough that it becomes the foundation for the 2020 census redistricting. We should be the leader and not the infamous pariah of fair voting
874		Aug 2 2017 9:39PM	Dr. David Potenziani	North Carolina needs to follow other states' examples of using non-partisan redistricting commissions. Every citizen should have confidence that their vote is counted with equal weight to every other vote. Partisan gerrymandering not only robs citizens of an equal voice, it attacks our highest ideal as a democratic republic. For representative democracy to be legitimate, voting districts need a non-partisan method of drawing their boundaries
875		Aug 2 2017 9:51PM	Ms. Paula Finck	Of course we need fair bipartisan redistricting of our maps that allows voters to pick their representatives , not the other way around.
876		Aug 2 2017 10:11PM	Ms. Nancy Garson-Angert	We must have a NONPARTISAN process for drawing new maps. Any/all political information (for example, voter registration and previous election results)should be excluded from consideration in drawing new maps. Finally, districts should be compact, keeping communities together. Thank you.
877		Aug 2 2017 10:18PM	Ms. Delaney Susie	<p>Hello, I am a mother, teacher, artist and proud North Carolina resident. Lately I have been embarrassed by my States political actions, especially over the unfair & undemocratic ways districts have been drawn. I know that both republicans & democrats have been guilty of gerrymandering votes in the past and it's time to stop this practice. I'm aware that on Friday, August 4, at 10:30am the legislature will hold a redistricting committee meeting and take public comment on what criteria they will use when drawing new voting maps. I am writing to say that the redistricting committee must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps 2. exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps, and 3. draw compact districts that keep communities together. <p>Please uphold our democracy and ensure fair voting.</p> <p>We need fair maps.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
878		Aug 2 2017 11:03PM	Ms. Nancy Brown	I urge you to exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing mapsand to draw compact districts that keep communities together
879		Aug 2 2017 11:25PM	Mr. Charles senf	<p>Our constitution simply demands a count of eligible voters. It does not mention political affiliation, race, ethnicity, or gender (thought it envisioned male suffrage only).</p> <p>Governor Gerry infamously attempted to skew the process to favor his political party - and the result then and presently have worked to skew the makeup of state and federal legislatures with precision unimaginable by our founding fathers and those who followed in their footsteps.</p> <p>The Constitutional process essentially envisioned an objective, random selection process which treated each and all citizens equally (albeit with the 3/5ths rule arising from our 'original sin' of enshrining slavery in our law).</p> <p>Politicians have ignored the intent over the years, essentially selecting which citizens might cast ballots in 'their' voting districts. As has been said, allowing politicians to choose 'their' voters instead of voters choosing "their' representatives.</p> <p>We can see the results in North Carolina (as in many other states) when we compare statewide voting results with the cumulative results from Gerrymandered Districts.</p> <p>Since present day redistricting efforts are aided by sophisticated computers and GIS data as well as access to voter rolls indicating party preference and voter histories, the ability to surgically craft and create voting districts comprising a majority of voters registered with a particular political party the process has produced undemocratic districts which effectively deny literally millions of citizens equal representation</p>

880		Aug 2 2017 11:57PM	Ms. Beth OConnell	<p>Whatever side of the aisle you are on, it is time for a NON-PARTISAN drawing of legislative districts, here and across the country. Gerrymandering undermines democracy and make us into nothing but hypocrites, as we say we stand for our great democracy but do the opposite. I urge the NCGA to redraw these districts in a fair and just way without trying to draw them for partisan advantage. By doing that, then we can bring discussions back to good policy and finding compromise.</p> <p>I also ask that all these comments be read, discussed, pondered and provided to any person, consultant or legislative staff, that is involved in the redrawing of these maps. It is not acceptable to ask for comments but then not include them in the decision making process.</p> <p>Thank you, Beth O'Connell NC Citizen</p>
881		Aug 3 2017 1:24AM	Mr. WILLIAM ALDRIDGE	<p>I would like to request that moving forward that nonpartisan redistricting be used for drawing new legislative voting maps. This is needed to return true democracy to our voting process. The will of the people must be heard rather than the effects of strategically drawn legislative districts that favor any one party over another.</p>
882		Aug 3 2017 1:31AM	Mrs. Lara McKinnon	<p>Two wrongs don't make a right is a certain truth. The excuse of "the Democrats did it too" just doesn't hold up when you examine the data. The obscene degree in which the NCGA has gerrymandered our congressional districts is seen best through a lens of history.</p> <p>1996 6 Democrats, 6 Republicans 1998 5 Democrats, 7 Republicans 2000 5 Democrats, 7 Republicans 2002 6 Democrats, 7 Republicans 2004 6 Democrats, 7 Republicans 2006 7 Democrats, 6 Republicans 2008 8 Democrats, 5 Republicans 2010 7 Democrats, 6 Republicans 2012 4 Democrats, 9 Republicans 2014 3 Democrats, 10 Republicans 2016 3 Democrats, 10 Republicans</p> <p>The results of the 2012 election are directly correlated to dramatically racially gerrymandered districts, which have been declared illegal.</p> <p>The same methods, and indeed the same mapmaker who drew the racially biased congressional districts, applied the same approach to the state legislative districts. No wonder the court has mandated you redraw them.</p> <p>Our Democracy is healthier with real competition. If the only challenge a legislator faces happens in the primary there is effectively no competition.</p> <p>If you racially gerrymander or politically gerrymander our districts you have denied fair competition and it is fraudulent.</p>
883		Aug 3 2017 6:06AM	Mr. Michael Connolly	<p>Several months ago, my wife Brie and I drove 2 1/2 hours up to Raleigh to speak with our Senator Bill Rabon and our Representative Chris Millis and ask them to put an end to the gerrymandering in NC. We have also written letters and e-mails to them and others about this very important issue. We cannot come to Raleigh on Friday August 4th to express our views on this subject because of a previous commitment. But here is what we are asking as the legislature works on redistricting:</p> <p>adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps, exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps, draw compact districts that keep communities together. And let us see the maps and give us time to study them before any final decisions are made on them. Thank you.</p>
884		Aug 3 2017 6:09AM	Ms. Sandy Irving	<p>Be compact and contiguous Follow state and federal law Be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration,results of previous elections, voter turnout and where the incumbent lives</p> <p>Be Fair.</p>
885		Aug 3 2017 6:15AM	Anne Hummel	<p>It is high time that the General Assembly follow state and federal law to engage in redistricting that is fair to all voters. No gerrymandering! Districts should be redrawn to be compact and contiguous, and without partisan factors such as voter registration, voter turnout, where the incumbent lives, or the results of previous elections. Precincts should not be split for any races. And in Congressional redistricting, county boundaries should not be split, unless it is absolutely necessary for equitable distribution of the population into districts.</p>

886		Aug 3 2017 6:25AM	Ms. rosalie dominik	<p>This is such an important opportunity to create fair, nonpartisan districts that are consistent with a true democracy.</p> <p>Such maps would allow legislators to concentrate on critical matters such as healthcare, education and taking care of our children and seniors.</p> <p>Please</p> <p>-adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps,</p> <p>-exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps</p> <p>-draw compact districts that keep communities together</p>
887		Aug 3 2017 6:28AM	Michael Brown	Please make sure in your upcoming redistributing deliberations that new voter districts are: contiguous & non partisan (without out consideration of previous voter roles/ affiliation). Let's play fair, and make our representatives responsive to the entire electorate not a computer generated voter sub set of narrow ideologies that favor any particular party.
888		Aug 3 2017 6:30AM	Mrs. Mary Peterson	<p>Be compact and contiguous</p> <p>Follow state and federal law</p> <p>Be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout and where the incumbent lives</p>
889		Aug 3 2017 6:41AM	Ms. Stefanie Mendell	Let's uphold the greatest traditions of our democracy and draw fair and impartial voting districts. That means that they should be compact and contiguous, follow state and federal law, and be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout or where the incumbent lives.
890		Aug 3 2017 7:06AM	Mr. Earl Chestnut	<p>The redistricting line should follow the state and federal law as it is outline by the court</p> <p>It should be done fair and equally that allow voters to a choice who they want vote for.</p> <p>They should be not without racist discrimination and party affiliation</p> <p>It should be drawn to reflect that particular district of people county lines that they live in and not lines that stretches all across North Carolina.</p>
891		Aug 3 2017 7:07AM	Mrs. Mary Lou Buck	I am for ending Gerrymandering!
892		Aug 3 2017 7:08AM	Ms. Laurel Colton	Voting is our right. You have manipulated my Constitutional right to vote. I have exercised my right to vote for more than 55 years. Do your job now.
893		Aug 3 2017 7:11AM	Nada Barnett	<p>I think they should be drawn by a bi-partisan committee in a just and fair way</p> <p>irrespective of race and political leanings. The districts should not meander all over the map but should be drawn to be in contiguous areas.</p>
894		Aug 3 2017 7:19AM	Dr. tim hoyt	I agree with Jane's criteria. The time for fair, un-rigged elections is long overdue. Legislators should not choose us; we should choose them!
895		Aug 3 2017 7:21AM	Ms. Virginia Sullivan	I would like to see redistricting done by a bipartisan group, not the legislature. All districts should be compact and contiguous, follow state and federal laws, and be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, or voter turnout. Virginia
896		Aug 3 2017 7:23AM	Ms. Catherine Shoemaker	North Carolina citizens don't want partisan advantage or racial bias to play a role in drawing the new maps. Please come up with fair maps.
897		Aug 3 2017 7:25AM	Mr. Steve Buehler	These districts should be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration results of previous elections, voter turnout and where the incumbent lives. If you can't win an election honestly based on your ideas and plans...then you shouldn't be there. You shouldn't get to choose your voters. NC deserves better.
898		Aug 3 2017 7:26AM	Mrs. Pat Moore	<p>The importance of everyone's vote is essential to democracy.</p> <p>This is a non-partisan issue.</p>
899		Aug 3 2017 7:42AM	Mrs. PJ Gentry	I support a new Senate district for Person Caswell & Granville Counties.
900		Aug 3 2017 7:44AM	Mr. E Thomas Bowers	Let every vote count
901		Aug 3 2017 7:46AM	Ms. Katherine Archie	Redistricting must be free of Political affiliation s
902		Aug 3 2017 7:47AM	Dr. Deebbie Swift	I want the General Assembly to draw district lines that are compact, no snaky lines of districts that reach far and wide from some unclear central location just to secure a particular political party. Districts should be contiguous. I do not want them to follow voter records or racial profiles. Using common sense and not partisan politics should be the guideline, as well as federal regulations.
903		Aug 3 2017 7:52AM	Heidi Perry	Get a computer program to draw the lines and have someone from each party (but outside the state) review them.
904		Aug 3 2017 7:54AM	Cheryl Wheaton	Redistrictig should be nonpartisan, compact, and follow state and federal laws.
905		Aug 3 2017 7:58AM	Dr. Jacob Brayboy	<p>The redistricting committee must, 1. adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps. 2. exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps and 3. draw compact districts that keep communities together. Democracy is built on fair voting so we need fair maps.</p> <p>Thank you for your time</p>

906		Aug 3 2017 8:02AM	Mr. Dale Weston	<p>I am ashamed of the partisan game playing both parties have engaged in. I support the creation of contiguous, population based (with out regard to political factors) districts which then encourage both all parties to honestly represent and support the will of the people.</p> <p>The court has mandated fairness in establishing districts. The digitized databases of state wide population factors can establish districts incorporating fair criteria in a matter of minutes. I ask prompt action based on the principles established by the founding fathers - not on the principles of corporate and personal greed embodied in the current boundaries.</p>
907		Aug 3 2017 8:06AM	Mr. Tracey Kendrick	<p>Why are you making the 6th district so large? We need to leave the 6th district as it is with Person, Granville, Caswell and Durham. Or leave Durham out, I'd be fine with that. Leave Durham out and put us with Alamance.</p>
908		Aug 3 2017 8:23AM	Emily Kotecki	<p>Pleasw adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps, exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps, and draw compact districts that keep communities together. Thank you!</p>
909		Aug 3 2017 8:26AM	Eric Greene	<p>It is long past time to end the partisan gerrymandering of legislative districts in North Carolina. The Republican super majorities in both houses are in no way reflective of the electorate, and it's time to quit stalling. Federal judges agree...no more delays. You must redraw districts that are compact and contiguous, that follow state and federal law, and that are drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout and/or where the incumbent lives. You can no longer pack minorities and/or progressive voters into a few districts to stack the legislature in favor of one party. As citizens, we want our voices back and refuse to be ignored any longer. Get to work, and make our state's legislative districts actually represent the people of North Carolina.</p>
910		Aug 3 2017 8:28AM	Dr. Gregory Galbicka	<p>Districts need to be drawn by simple algorithms that provide equal population sub-areas of the state as compactly as possible, taking no other factors (race, sex, voting history, etc.) into account. To do anything else is a waste of taxpayer dollars and a devaluation of the equality of every vote. There are a variety of methods that could be employed, including the shortest splitline method (http://rangevoting.org/GerryExec.html). Adopting such a method removes all political and other motives and simply defines districts by their ability to represent equal populations. They are easily and simply redrawn as census changes, saving taxpayers time and money, are always and forever unbiased, and won't unduly empower your opponents whether you are in the majority or the minority. It is time to end political gerrymandering once and for all. To not adopt such a strategy is to disenfranchise voters pure and simple.</p>
911		Aug 3 2017 8:28AM	Mr. Thomas Clayton	<p>I believe that nonpartisan redistricting is essential to re-establishing a fully functional and productive NC Legislature and US Congress. Please do not consider past political information--like voter registration or past election results--in drawing the new maps. And keep the districts compact and contiguous.</p> <p>Thank you for taking comments and more importantly, developing a fair process!</p> <p>adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps · draw compact districts that keep communities together
912		Aug 3 2017 8:35AM	Mr. Mary Clayton	<p>The new state and federal districts should be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, anticipated turnout, and results of previous elections. They should reflect existing law and be compact and contiguous.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration!</p>
913		Aug 3 2017 8:40AM	Ms. Margaret Peeples	<p>I am a retired NC educator and was disgusted with the racist redistricting that was done and implemented by the legislature. Thank goodness the courts have demanded new lines for our districts. I want the districts to be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) compact and contiguous, 2) comply with state and federal laws, and 3) drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout and where an incumbent
914		Aug 3 2017 9:00AM	Mr. Mack Pearsall	<p>It is time for fair maps and a chance for the voters to choose their representatives versus the representatives choosing the voters.</p>
915		Aug 3 2017 9:01AM	Dr. Gavin Dillard	<p>Please do this now. It's the legal thing to do; it's the American thing to do; it's the right thing to do. North Carolina has become an embarrassment for its bad and unethical management — let's change our tune!</p>
916		Aug 3 2017 9:04AM	Mr. Salvatore DiBlasi	<p>I would like to take this opportunity to say "why is it OK for Democrats to redistrict when they have the majority, but slap a lawsuit on Republicans when they have the majority." WHY is their two sets of rules in the House, one for the privileged Democrats who can do no wrong. While Republicans have their every move scrutinized. Time for CHANGE!</p>

917		Aug 3 2017 9:07AM	Ms. Dianne Layden	<p>The need to keep our "finger Counties" together still remains. We share economics, hospitals, entertainment, and many other factors. Two hospitals cover the region and are one of the major employers in the area. The Regional Health services cover this entire northeast region. We share ESCU and COA. With all this these northeast counties have so much in common that it would be a shame to place them in different legislative districts. There would be no consistency in policy, activities, economy, and basic life if these counties are broken up and put in with counties that do not have anything in common.</p> <p>Please do not break us up. We fight for survival in relation to the rest of NC. For stability of the area please let us stand as we are.</p>
918		Aug 3 2017 9:12AM	Ms. Barbara Henegar	This activity could be brought into this century by doing the redistricting by computer . Take the party politics out of it. Have the criteria be population and age based (18 and over) be fair ... get it done
919		Aug 3 2017 9:13AM	Brian Irving	<p>The Libertarian Party of North Carolina supports a redistricting process conducted by an independent, nonpartisan agency for all local, state, and federal districts. The process should be open and transparent. It should involve significant public input with the opportunity for citizens to weigh in on proposed district maps. The criteria used to draw all district lines should be simple. The districts should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be compact and contiguous 2. Follow state and federal law 3. Be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout and where the incumbent lives
920		Aug 3 2017 9:18AM	Mrs. Heidi Mize	I am in favor of redistricting Caswell-Person-Granville-Durham Senate district.
921		Aug 3 2017 9:18AM	Byron Dame	Do it right, and do it fairly for constituents, not your party. Just because 'they' did it in the past does not mean you can't stand up and do what is right.
922		Aug 3 2017 9:18AM	Mr. ROBERT CHERNIAK	let us have non partisan redistricting by creating an independent commission.
923		Aug 3 2017 9:19AM	Mr. RICK Nichols	Time to stop cheating and stealing elections. Our Republican officials are and have been stealing our rights to a fair election for years. They know we will vote them out for selling us all out.
924		Aug 3 2017 9:19AM	Dr. Susan Weaver	I am writing to encourage you to use this opportunity to draw districts as fairly as possible without partisan interests. People fought and died protecting democracy and the right to vote. This is your time to make a lasting effort to protect it from special interest greed and partisan bias.
925		Aug 3 2017 9:20AM	Ms. Kathryn Charles	<p>I am a constituent from the 5th District of North Carolina, and I vote.</p> <p>I strongly support districts that accurately represent ALL the citizens of the state, and use fair and legal criteria to create maps for NC Senate and House and US Congressional districts that represent ALL NC citizens, not just those that favor or discriminate against any political candidate or political party.</p> <p>Maps should be drawn in compliance with the US Constitution and the Voting Rights Act (VRA) of 1965. Districts should have equal population to the extent possible, and be geographically compact and contiguous.</p> <p>North Carolina has some of the most gerrymandered districts in the country. This is disgraceful, illegal and damaging to democracy and must be corrected.</p> <p>Kathryn Charles 2715 Old Highway 60 Purlear NC 28665</p>
926		Aug 3 2017 9:24AM	Ms. Marla Drucker	<p>the districts should</p> <p>Be compact and contiguous Follow state and federal law Be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout and where the incumbent lives</p>
927		Aug 3 2017 9:29AM	Dr. Victoria Shea	<p>Districts should be drawn without regard to A) where incumbents live; B) party affiliation and previous partisan voting patterns of residents. Also, districts should be compact, not spread out into long spidery patterns with pieces that barely touch each other.</p> <p>And finally, district maps should comply with all federal and state laws and with the Constitution.</p>
928		Aug 3 2017 9:32AM	Mrs. Louise Verni	Want Caswell, Person, Granville and Durham one senate district.
929		Aug 3 2017 9:33AM	Mrs. Judith Mont	GOP - Stop the cheating!!! We will vote you out.
930		Aug 3 2017 9:35AM	Ms. Nancy Jacobs	<p>I am amazed and disturbed that our legislature has so little confidence in their consituents that they resort to virtually having to "cheat" to win elections by restricting voters who they think will vote against them.</p> <p>This is cowardly and immoral to say the least.</p> <p>And Pathetic.</p> <p>Most people in the state want fair and non partisan decided districts. Get on with it. You know what is right</p>

931		Aug 3 2017 9:39AM	Mr. Jerry Marples	<p>The districts should be compact and contiguous. Follow state and federal law.</p> <p>Be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout and where the incumbent lives. This should be done by a non-partisan commission. Both parties have supported this, now is the time for my Republican Party to stop acting like Democrats</p>
932		Aug 3 2017 9:45AM	Mr. Fred Stanback	Establish a non partisan redistricting commission
933		Aug 3 2017 9:46AM	Alan Knudsen	<p>PLEASE have re-districting completed on a non-partisan basis! What BOTH parties do when in power is very similar. But when the forefathers first began gerrymandering, they didn't have the computing / technology / IT technology to do it with the tools we do today. It's destroying NC and this country. You have the power to stop it, and do the right thing by creating independent commission create non-partisan districts.</p> <p>Please do the right thing.</p>
934		Aug 3 2017 9:47AM	Mr. Stephen ADVOKAT	Get on with this already. You've been foot-dragging long enough. I want my Democracy back.
935		Aug 3 2017 9:49AM	Mr. Jamie Lau	<p>The required redrawing of legislative maps in North Carolina must be done in a nonpartisan fashion, without the use of data on voters' party affiliations or any proxy data related to party affiliation such as race.</p> <p>Partisan gerrymandering of legislative maps is undemocratic, and undermines the will of North Carolina voters. A representative republic only has credibility when elected officials are truly representative of the public that elects them to office. North Carolina has lost credibility as a result of its currently illegally constituted General Assembly, which continues to pass unpopular laws seeking to entrench its power. These laws are costing the State a great deal of money, as they are repeatedly challenged in court.</p> <p>A General Assembly elected through a fair process will more accurately reflect the will of the people of North Carolina, and will not pass laws that are wildly unpopular and illegal. For the sake of democracy and North Carolina's citizens, please end the partisan madness and draw legislative maps in a fair manner.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Jamie Lau</p>
936		Aug 3 2017 9:54AM	Mrs. Susan Phipps	<p>One of the most fundamental requirements to sustain a healthy democracy is to allow all qualified citizens to participate in free and accessible elections that result in the person(s) favored by the majority taking office. Gerrymandering is a totally un-American effort to thwart the wishes of the majority and I urge you to draw fair district lines right now in North Carolina with no consideration of the politics or race of the individual voters within any compact new district. Support Democracy. Thank you.</p>
937		Aug 3 2017 9:54AM	Ms. Joan Jolliff	Stop gerrymandering our state. Create a district map and procedure to ensure all of NC's citizens can easily vote in their district. We are watching your actions and votes. Thank you for doing the right thing for our state
938		Aug 3 2017 9:54AM	Marshall Botvinick	For the past seven years, North Carolina has been using unfair and unconstitutional maps. The Supreme Court's recent unanimous judgment that our 2011 maps were a racial gerrymander should be a wake up call to politicians of both parties that we need a more equitable and nonpartisan approach to redistricting. Right now, members of the General Assembly have an extraordinary opportunity in front of them. They can correct the mistakes of 2011 and steer North Carolina towards elections that are fairer and more competitive, or they can continue down the same path that has forced tax payers to spend millions of dollars defending unconstitutional maps. I urge the legislature to get it right this time. North Carolinians are tired of paying for our politicians to defend maps that are drawn for their own personal and political benefit.
939		Aug 3 2017 9:55AM	Mr. Matthew Damron	<p>It's time to put an end to the illegal voting districts, ruled by a federal court as racial gerrymandering. Please do the right thing and do it quickly. Every citizen deserves a voice. Isn't it enough that we've put a madman in the nation's highest office? This is the natural evolution of partisan politics. When did ensuring your team wins become more important than the will of the people?</p>

940		Aug 3 2017 9:57AM	Blake Esselstyn	<p>On criteria and process, I urge:</p> <p>*Disclosing all criteria and assumptions used on a timely basis as part of the public map review process</p> <p>*Using the preservation of communities of interest as a criterion (e.g., not splitting municipalities unless necessary for population equality)</p> <p>*Excluding data on race and ethnicity except where necessary to comply with federal law</p> <p>*Ensuring the “opportunity for protected classes of voters to elect the candidates of their choice” as required by the Voting Rights Act, including the use of standard methods of polarized voting analysis, such as Bivariate Ecological Regression Analysis, and the reporting of the results by district for each set of maps</p> <p>Strictly applying the Stephenson process to define VRA districts and to draw county clusters that comply with North Carolina's Whole County Provision</p> <p>*Using accepted measures of compactness that measure both the extent to which each district is spread out from its center (e.g., Reock and Convex Hull) and how smooth or contorted each district is (e.g., Polsby-Popper and Schwartzberg) and then making the results of this analysis available for each district and each set of maps</p> <p>*Making maps available for review and comment by the public in advance of hearings and again before the maps are finalized</p> <p>*Maintaining a public log of comments and the response of the committee to each comment, including whether the maps presented</p>
941		Aug 3 2017 9:58AM	Dr. Samuel Speciale	<p>As you consider the factors going into fair and transparent redistricting boundaries please be mindful of the following factors:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be compact and contiguous 2. Follow state and federal law 3. Be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout and where the incumbent lives
942		Aug 3 2017 10:03AM	Ms. Regina Burchett	<p>I am asking our legislators - who represent all of the citizens of North Carolina - to ensure new districts are drawn using impartial criteria and in an open and transparent process the public can trust.</p> <p>Districts should strive to be competitive and compact, and free from partisan bias. Partisan bias that should be excluded from the process would be consideration of any voter’s party affiliation, past voter turnout, and the address of the incumbent for any proposed district.</p> <p>The criteria used to draw the districts should be published and available for public review from the very beginning of the process. Lawmakers should make all comments to the committee available for public review.</p> <p>The districts should not be drawn to benefit either party, but to represent the citizens in our state in a logical, useful and non-partisan way. Please do not put your party's interest above doing your job in an ethical, respected manner.</p>
943		Aug 3 2017 10:08AM	Ms. Bonnie Snyder	<p>Please by fair in this latest attempt at redistricting, all American's have a right to vote and to have their vote count. We will not tolerate racial bias or lines intended to exclude any portion of the population. We are watching you. I don't care what was done in the past, if you can't win an election by competing fairly, than you shouldn't be running for office. I support independent districting and will fight until it becomes law. I know the majority of people in our state agree.</p>
944		Aug 3 2017 10:08AM	Mr. Greg Hamby	<p>Greetings, As The Supreme Court has found NC election districts to be illegally drawn to minimize the voting power of african Americans it is now time to turn away for these efforts to so back to the old ways of excluding some from the Democratic process and full embrace The Constitution.</p>
945		Aug 3 2017 10:10AM	Mr. Robert Lamb	<p>The people who draw the new maps should NOT have access to information on party affiliation or race because the right to vote is not contingent on either of these factors. Consideration should be given only to the spatial distribution of the population and the district boundaries drawn in a manner that does not divide communities any more than is absolutely necessary.</p>
946		Aug 3 2017 10:13AM	Ms. deborah snowdon	<p>The League of Women Voters supports Common Cause in its efforts to ensure that electoral maps in N.C. are drawn without regard to political information, i.e. voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live. We urge NC lawmakers to adopt a nonpartisan process to redraw our electoral maps so that every citizen's vote counts. While we realize that there is no perfect process, we urge you to adopt a process that minimizes voter disenfranchisement. We feel that the creation of a nonpartisan committee to oversee the process would best serve North Carolina voters and ensure the integrity of our electoral system.</p>
947		Aug 3 2017 10:13AM	Mrs. Nancy Morgan	<p>Please step up and do the right thing. Politics need to think of all people who live in North Carolina!</p>

948		Aug 3 2017 10:25AM	Mrs. Vivian Lamb	The new maps should be drawn with NO access to information on party affiliation. Factoring that into the process is driving our government toward a single-party system like that in Cuba and other communist regimes. We must stop this trend before it destroys America. Thank you.
949		Aug 3 2017 10:26AM	Mrs. Maia Sloan	The district lines in NC need to represent all the people and be fairly drawn so that everyone has a voice that counts. The legislatures job is to work for the people and instead we see a shameful power grab by one political party desperate to stay in control. It's not fair and it's not democratic and it undermines everything that our country stands for. The people are not being equally represented in NC and something needs to change.
950		Aug 3 2017 10:31AM	Allison Mangkang	Please commit to nonpartisan guidelines for re-drawing state voting districts including the exclusion of voter registration data, past election results and incumbents’ addresses. Please assign redistricting responsibility to an independent body when drawing new districts, and not the same body that drew the illegal districts during the previous effort.
951		Aug 3 2017 10:33AM	Dr. David H. Bland	It is no secret that Democrats played the gerrymandering game in past years, but the sophisticated tools which were available to the Republican mapmakers over the last six years has made North Carolina a poster child for non-representative elections where the legislators choose the voters rather than voters having unrestricted opportunity to select their legislators of choice. The court has been clear in its assessment of our gerrymandered districts and has given you legislators an opportunity to rectify the disregard which has been shown to North Carolina voters. I urge you to apply the following criteria as you revise our present districts and begin seriously considering a nonpartisan redistricting commission: *Be compact and contiguous *Follow state and federal law *Be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout and where the incumbent lives
952		Aug 3 2017 10:38AM	Ms. Cheryl Jones	I would like to request that you stop screwing over the people of this State and start acting like you actually have ALL of our best interests at heart.Please treat us fairly and give ALL of the people of N.C a FAIR chance to vote and have their voices heard. And remember there WILL be an election coming in the near future and whether or not you stay is up to the People and the People are watching!!!
953		Aug 3 2017 10:38AM	Mr. Chris Kaman	I believe that redistricting in North Carolina has historically been unfairly manipulated by the party in power and overwhelmingly favorable to incumbent candidates. Also, district maps drawn for partisan advantage have led to years of expensive legal wrangling, divisive politics, and voter dissatisfaction. Lastly, it seems to me that election districts created by partisan-drawn maps actually subvert the voting power of its citizens. Partisan gerrymandering must be ended in North Carolina, and across our country! Therefore, I fully support legislation to reform our redistricting process which includes the following principles: a. Districts are “compact and contiguous” meaning that there are no long tentacles that stretch out and barely touch the rest of the district. b. Districts follow state and federal laws. c. The most important: districts are drawn not considering factors such as the party affiliation of voters, where the incumbent lives, the results of previous elections, or other partisan factors. Thank you for working on this critical issue!
954		Aug 3 2017 10:44AM	Barbara Vandenberg	North Carolina voters are watching. I urge you to use these criteria: Be compact and contiguous Follow state and federal law Be drawn without considering partisan factors such as voter registration, voter turnout, results of previous elections and where the incumbent lives.
955		Aug 3 2017 10:45AM	Jessica Flemming	I'm very pleased to see that this redistricting effort of under way. I truly hope that this will be done with a nonpartisan effort to ensure fairness and proper representation for all North Carolinians.
956		Aug 3 2017 10:49AM	Ms. Angela Ponzini	Redistricting needs to happen now. The current state of the districts in North Carolina is embarrassing. North Carolina General Assembly has demonstrated their inability to draw electoral maps that are fair and constitutional. NC needs leaders to adopt independent redistricting. Current legislators have wasted tax money on various methods to suppress votes via discriminatory gerrymandering and voter ID laws. Stop playing games. Transparency and non partisanship is required.
957		Aug 3 2017 10:53AM	Mrs. Nancy Driscoll	Make it fair and bipartisan

958		Aug 3 2017 10:54AM	Dr. Ronald Sederoff	<p>the criteria should require that the districts should</p> <p>Districts should be compact and contiguous Follow state and federal law Be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout and where the incumbent lives.</p>
959		Aug 3 2017 10:56AM	Mrs. Dorothy Williams	<p>I believe it is imperative for the leaders of North Carolina to ensure that one vote counts as much as another and nonpartisan redistricting is an important step toward this goal. I would encourage you to adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps; exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps; draw compact districts that keep communities together. Thank you for serving North Carolina as an elected official and for considering the common good above all else.</p>
960		Aug 3 2017 10:58AM	Christine McLynn	<p>I live in the infamously drawn 12th District - the abomination of partisan redistricting. Let a bipartisan group redraw boundaries - or better yet - let a computer programmer -with no affiliation to NC politics - redraw them. Whether Democrat, Republican, or Independent, each voter's vote should count as close to equally as possible</p>
961		Aug 3 2017 10:59AM	Ms. Laura Dendy	<p>Please draw the new district lines in a non-partisan fashion. Our districts should contain a fair balance of registered Republicans, Democrats and Independents. This is the best way for all North Carolinians to have our voices heard. As it stands now (and in the past) this is not the case. I believe you know this to be true in your hearts. Please show that you care about NC havin a real democratic process</p>
962		Aug 3 2017 11:01AM	Ms. Misako Toda	<p>Please consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps · exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps · draw compact districts that keep communities together
963		Aug 3 2017 11:02AM	Ms. Eileen McMinn	<p>We need impartial redistricting, to be determined by a commission or academic panel without guidelines that have nothing to do with political partisanship. It is the only way we can ensure that the people will elect legislators who represent their wishes.</p>
964		Aug 3 2017 11:03AM	Ms. Dona Koeberl	<p>voting districts should be compact and contiguous follow state and federal law not be based on party voter registration</p>
965		Aug 3 2017 11:03AM	Mr. Gary Welsh	<p>The current gerrymandering makes me feel like my opinion and my vote don't count because the Republican party has found a way to cheat and game the system. They have defeated democracy to impose their will on the state. This is not how the nation is designed to function and it is not Christian. All the excuses and rationales that try to justify this are just ingenuous distractions. To succeed as a state and a nation we need non-partisan districting.</p>
966		Aug 3 2017 11:07AM	Mr. Akiva Fox	<p>Please, please, please consider a non-partisan redistricting plan. Republicans won't be in power forever, and neither will Democrats. It is fair, it is right, and it leads to better governing. People lose faith in their legislature when it looks like a power grab, not a representative body. What we have now is not working.</p>
967		Aug 3 2017 11:08AM	Mr. PHILIP LENOWITZ	<p>It's simple. We need an independent, non-partisan group to make this happen. Not under the control of the majority party, but a fair, equitable redistricting. commission.</p>
968		Aug 3 2017 11:11AM	Mr. Thomas Paugh	<p>Redistricting should not be a political tool to weaken individuals' votes. It should simply reflect the change in population and demographics with a goal of providing as fair representation as possible to all citizens. There are several groups who have developed clear procedures for fair redistricting. These procedures should be applied by an independent committee made of knowledgeable adults.</p>
969		Aug 3 2017 11:13AM	Mrs. Diane Clark	<p>Hello, My family and I have felt disenfranchised from voting for many years now, as we are Democrats in a Republican-held district (Senate and House of Reps.). The Republicans run unopposed, as they have held power for a number of years now. We believe in Democracy, but feel that the current legislative districts are unfair to the voting public, favoring the Republican party. Please make new districts so that all people will be represented fairly, and so that a candidate can run from each party and feel they have a chance at winning. This needs to happen immediately, so we can get back to American values, not just Republican values, running our state and country.</p>

970		Aug 3 2017 11:16AM	Mrs. Ellen Weiner	Gerrymandered voting districts are not fair to ANY NC voter - even Republicans, even conservatives, even Caucasians! Think about it. What of the conservatives who live in districts gerrymandered in favor of minority candidates? At a January 26 symposium I heard someone say, "How discouraging do you think it is to be a conservative in District 12 the way it's currently drawn up? There's no way in hell my Republican vote will ever matter! I may as well not vote! It's not right!" Do Sen. Berger and Rep. Moore believe such voters should take comfort in "taking one for the team" (that is, NC Republican Party) knowing that Republican votes will count more in other counties? I can take being outvoted in a fair contest, whether it's what pizza we end up ordering for dinner or which legislators end up going to Raleigh NC or Washington DC . Sometimes one's opinion is going to be outnumbered, and I accept that - in a fair fight. Pizza is a minor thing, but voting is a right not a privilege and I want a fair fight (of ideas)! Our state history shows us neither NC Democrats nor NC Republicans can be trusted to design voting districts allowing a a fair fight of ideas - and now technology is scary as to how much it tells us about individual voting records! Please fix this, draw our voting districts without partisan considerations and make them "compact and contiguous". Please ask retired NC Supreme Court justices Rhoda Billings and Henry Frye to testify - they and their panel have demonstrated this can be done! Thank you for listening.
971		Aug 3 2017 11:24AM	Ms. Lynn Maust	Please remove the company who setup the current invalid district plan. We don't need to waste more time and tax dollars on them. Instead just setup districts to be by county only and independent of any party so that everyone can vote as they wish, bringing in the best candidates that serve the people and not bought out by money.
972		Aug 3 2017 11:25AM	Dr. Karen Hodges	I consider it extremely important that redistricting be conducted on a nonpartisan basis. To create districts that ensure the election of the member of one party or another has been a major factor in paralyzing our country with irreconcilable partisanship. Politicians do not have to enter into dialogue with one another in order to get elected. Ever since I've lived in Charlotte, the district in which I vote sends someone to the House of Representatives who perfectly reflects my political views, and I used to think that was great. But now I realize that my representative carries only so much weight as those who drew the last districting maps wanted him to carry. It's a static situation that only changes with redistricting, and then only to set up another static situation for the next few years. As it happens, my representative is a minority voice and, instead of functioning as a creative voice in a well-functioning democracy, he is isolated and his constituents frustrated and angry. The representation we get is not commensurate with our percentage of the population. Our faith in government is eroded, and we can only wait our turn to quash those who hold different views through a similarly undemocratic process. At this point in the history of our country, government desperately needs to do its job, and the job of any redistricting commission is to draws the map so as to accurately reflect our demographics and facilitate true consensus-building. Thank you for considering my views.
973		Aug 3 2017 11:26AM	Dr. Mary Diener	Make fair lines that are not advantageous to either party. Use bipartisan committee members. NC can be an example of fairness instead of a national spectacle.
974		Aug 3 2017 11:31AM	Nancy Shoemaker	I hope that the legislature is taking a new look at redistricting that will avoid the mistakes of the past attempts which have been found to violate federal laws. I am strongly in favor of a nonpartisan method of redistricting that is done without regard to the political data that I know current software allows (but does not require) your consultants to access. I do understand that drawing compact districts may make your job more difficult if you have to consider the views of all your constituents, instead of just the ones who vote in your primary. However, I know you didn't sign up for an easy job, and I hope you see how a more transparent process of redistricting will improve of the electoral process and help North Carolina be the great state we all know it can be.
975		Aug 3 2017 11:33AM	Mr. Timothy O'Brien	Please use a non-partisan system to develop non-partisan maps.
976		Aug 3 2017 11:33AM	Mrs. Sylvie Horvath	It is time for fair redistricting that doesn't depend on gerrymandering districts using voter registration information. The districts should be compact and contiguous so that people in the area have their voices heard. The spirit of the law is important and every vote should count and have the same weight. It is time to end working around the rule of law in order to create a legislature that does not fairly represent all of the people of North Carolin; otherwise we are living under a one party system dictatorship which is not what the forefathers envisioned.
977		Aug 3 2017 11:34AM	Abigail Stephens	Redistricting should be completed by a body independent of both parties in order to avoid politicians using their desire to be reelected as a factor. The same company that drew racially gerrymandering lines last time has been hired again. This is unacceptable. As North Carolinian have have a right to fair districts that allow us to choose our politicians, not the other way around.

978		Aug 3 2017 11:35AM	Kelly Fowler	As a voter in NC, it's very important that redistricting criteria be transparent and fair to ensure faith in the overall system. I am very much in favor of mathematical formulas to be followed where possible, such as not to exceed ratios of registered voters in one party vs the other. In addition, I am in favor of the following subjective criteria as general principles for redistricting: - Be compact and contiguous - Follow state and federal law - Be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout and where the incumbent lives
979		Aug 3 2017 11:45AM	Mr. Allan Maule	Please ensure that the redrawing of legislative districts will NOT be a partisan process. Our state has seen enough discord from one party or another abusing their power by gerrymandering districts to suit their needs. We need to have both major parties have input in this redistricting process. It would also be helpful to call upon statisticians and programmers to design a nonpartisan algorithm to help ensure our districts will enable fair, nonpartisan-weighted elections.
980		Aug 3 2017 11:45AM	Mr. D. L. Payne	Make sure this isn't another fascist GOP trick to tilt things their way. It's obvious that they don't feel that they can win without straight up cheating. Well, that's too bad. I have an idea: If you (the NC GOP) would try representing the people instead of your corporate overlords/owners, maybe you wouldn't have to cheat in elections. Just a thought. I doubt you'll change your tactics, because fascists always cheat
981		Aug 3 2017 11:48AM	Mr. Kenneth Fulford	Redistricting has to follow certain criteria to be accepted. compactness contiguity equal population preservation of existing political communities (This wasn't done when Asheville was divided between the 10th and 11th Districts!) partisan fairness (This wasn't observed in recent redistricting.) racial fairness (This wasn't done when the I-85 corridor District was designed!)
982		Aug 3 2017 11:53AM	Mr. thomas coulson	BE FAIR!!! In drawing the map please adhere to the following criteria:Be compact and contiguous Follow state and federal law. Be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout and where the incumbent lives
983		Aug 3 2017 12:06PM	Ms. Cynthia Gibbs	I think the redistricting criteria should be that the districts be compact and contiguous, follow state and federal law and be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout and where the incumbent lives. Thank you for considering what I believe to be fair and just criteria for redistricting. Cynthia
984		Aug 3 2017 12:13PM	Ms. Doshia James	I am asking the legislators to ensure new districts are drawn using impartial criteria and in an open and transparent process the public can trust. Districts should strive to be competitive, compact, encompassing communities of interest, and free from partisan bias. Partisan bias that should be excluded from the process would be consideration of voter's party affiliation, past voter turnout, and the address of the incumbent for any proposed district. The criteria used to draw the districts should be published and available for public review from the very beginning of the process. Lawmakers should make all comments to the committee available for public review.
985		Aug 3 2017 12:15PM	Lynda Cozart	To avoid major redistricting again in the near future please make this one nonpartisan in addition to racial. I believe upcoming court cases will mandate nonpartisan which will mean the maps will need to be redrawn for the 2020 election. A majority of you are on the record as supporting nonpartisan redistricting. So please, drawn them fairly now so that 2020 is not a major overhaul. Thank you.
986		Aug 3 2017 12:16PM	Susan Buck	NC should use a non-partisan commission that does not use voter registration data, past election results, or where incumbents live when drawing maps. Also the state should draw up compact districts that keep communities together so their needs and voices are heard by our elected officials.

987		Aug 3 2017 12:22PM	Dr. Jennifer Bremer	<p>I strongly encourage the Committee to set an example for the nation and for our state's future by developing a fair and impartial set of criteria for the upcoming redistricting of the North Carolina House and Senate. Such criteria should be based on the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disclose all criteria and assumptions used on a timely basis as part of the public map review process 2. Do not set partisan targets for election outcomes or purposely protect incumbents 3. Exclude data on voters' party registration and past voting 4. Exclude data on incumbents' or candidates' addresses 5. Exclude data on race and ethnicity except where necessary to comply with federal law 6. Ensure the “opportunity for protected classes of voters to elect the candidates of their choice” as required by the Voting Rights Act, including the use of standard methods of polarized voting analysis, such as Bivariate Ecological Regression Analysis, and the reporting of the results by district and overall for each set of maps 7. Strictly apply the Stephenson process to define VRA districts and to draw county clusters that comply with North Carolina's Whole County Provision 8. Use accepted measures of compactness that measure both the extent to which each district is spread out from its center (e.g., Reock and Convex Hull) and how smooth or contorted each district is (e.g., Polsby-Popper and Schwartzberg) and then make the results of this analysis available for each district and each set of maps 9. Report the efficiency gap for each district and set of districts after drawing each set of maps (but without using partisan data to draw the maps) 10. Make maps available for review and comment by the public in advance of hearings and again before the maps are finalized.
988		Aug 3 2017 12:24PM	Mr. Keith Helmer	Northern Durham County is far more poorly represented by the current district in the NC General Assembly and the US House of Representatives. A western and northern change if districts would be more representative and appreciated.
989		Aug 3 2017 12:27PM	Mr. Charles Deaton	Please adopt nonpartisan redistricting criteria. Creating districts without gerrymandering will reduce polarization, increase voter trust, boost our state's image, and improve the health of our democracy.
990		Aug 3 2017 12:39PM	Jeff McLarty	My only request is that the process be fair and the resulting districts be as neutral as possible by race, income, party and demographics. Let neither party use this as a means of winning or maintaining control. Please. We have enough problems. Thanks.
991		Aug 3 2017 12:46PM	Ms. Sara Casey	<p>I support the following for the redistricting process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps · exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps · draw compact districts that keep communities together
992		Aug 3 2017 12:46PM	Richard O'Brien	I feel strongly that legislative redistricting should be completed in a non partisan fashion or outcome and without intended or unintended harm to African American voters.
993		Aug 3 2017 12:49PM	Dr. Ellen Colodney	<p>Fair, open elections are the cornerstone of our democracy. Please protect this process by stopping gerrymandering.</p> <p>adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps exclude economic and racial data when drawing maps draw compact districts based on geography rather than politics</p> <p>Thank you. Ellen Colodney, MD</p>
994		Aug 3 2017 12:51PM	Ms. Karen Burns	I encourage you to please pursue a nonpartisan process that will create compact and fair districts. We've had enough of politicians who feel so safe in their districts that they no longer respond to the will of their constituents-- power for power's sake instead of serving the people of North Carolina. Please do what's right and put an end to this.
995		Aug 3 2017 1:07PM	Ms. Susan Ferguson	Please do this redistricting in a bipartisan manner by listening to all sides especially the undecided voters like myself.
996		Aug 3 2017 1:08PM	Mr. Geoffrey Wilson	<p>Please redistrict without regard to partisan advantage. Partisan gerrymanders rob people of their equal protection and undermine our democracy.</p> <p>The existing gerrymanders concentrate Democratic voters into overwhelming majority districts, while distributing Republican voters across multiple districts where they win by smaller margins. Please make this more fair.</p>
997		Aug 3 2017 1:17PM	Ms. Nancy Curtis	Please use the best totally nonpartisan mathematical method of redistricting for the entire state. Then everyone can complain, and we will have the fairest opportunity to have our individual votes count.

998		Aug 3 2017 1:25PM	Mr. Kevin Strezo	To whom it may concern, I support legislation that takes redistricting out of the hands of the legislators and political parties. A non-partisan non-profit group must be in control of this process and it must not be affected by political influence. Redistricting must be done either by mathematical separation out through said group to make rational and logical districts. See this video below for additional details. Thank you for your time.
999		Aug 3 2017 1:26PM	Phyllis Demko	https://youtu.be/Mkv11UJb0AY After studying this issue at length, I am convinced that partisan gerrymandering is the worst threat to our democracy since the Civil War. Legislators should not choose their voters; voters must be allowed to choose who will represent them. While some partisanship in redistricting is reasonable, the process and tools used by the General Assembly are too blatantly partisan. The result has been that in the 2016 general election, 40% of legislative seats had no opposition and NO congressional races were competitive. In gerrymandered districts, politicians tend to adopt extreme views pleasing to their base and ignore more moderate views. Thus would-be voters stay home because they believe their vote does not count. And all this leads to a deep distrust of government. I urge you to
1000		Aug 3 2017 1:29PM	Ms. Elizabeth Kent	Redrawing the districts every two years is expensive. Badly drawn districts mean the Federal Courts bring suits, and the state has to defend. (That will be harder now that the current budget will force layoffs among the state's attorneys.) Then add to that the cost of special elections. If decency and fairness have no effect on drawing the district lines, keep the financial costs in mind, and refrain from creating districts that extend from the northern border to the southern border near Charlotte, or that encompass four counties as in the infamous district Down East.
1001		Aug 3 2017 1:37PM	Mr. Jerry Aiken	I live in northern Durham County, I am a republican and would like to be included within a conservative district.
1002		Aug 3 2017 1:42PM	Dr. Henry Nuttle	I am writing to express my idea as to how the development of new Legislative election maps should be conducted. Districts should be compact and contiguous, follow state and federal law, and be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout, and incumbents' addresses. The resulting break out by party affiliation for each district should be reported and the draft maps should be made available for review and public comment before they are finalized. For the good of the people of this state, we have got to break the rigid partisan split that dominates the way we talk and act. The new maps could be a big step in that direction.
1003		Aug 3 2017 1:48PM	Ms. Anne Clark	I am strongly in favor of nonpartisan redistricting, as are MANY other North Carolinians--both Democratic and Republican. Nonpartisan redistricting would make our elections more democratic and fair. I think we have seen from the past 5 or 6 years that the partisan infighting that has been happening in the NCGA benefits no one--particularly not the constituents of NC. I urge the committee to put their partisan differences aside and do what's best for the NC people.
1004		Aug 3 2017 1:57PM	Joshua Worley	Don't let crooked Roy and democrats ruined what GOP legislative government and Former Gov Pat Mccrory destroy our State.
1005		Aug 3 2017 1:59PM	Leslie Dillon	I urge that you adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps and that political information such as past election results be excluded. Compact districts are essential so that communities can be kept together. THIS MUST BE NONPARTISAN. Voters deserve maps that are drawn fairly.
1006		Aug 3 2017 1:59PM	Ms. Christina Stableford	This comment is to request that the current NC state redistricting plan reflect the following criteria: Be compact and contiguous Follow state and federal law Be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout and where the incumbent lives. Voters deserve the opportunity to have their votes count!
1007		Aug 3 2017 2:00PM	Mr. David Ambaras	I urge the committee to adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps. I urge them to exclude political information such as voter registration data, past electoral results, or where incumbents live when drawing maps. I urge them to draw compact districts that keep communities together. Thank you.
1008		Aug 3 2017 2:03PM	Mr. Benjamin Dudley	Hello, I like to suggest that North Carolina show itself as a leader, and go ahead and create a independent, non-partiasan redistricting group. This is really important, and encourages people's faith in our electoral system, which I'm sure you'd agree we need at this moment in our history. Be brave, show some leadership and do the right thing for our state, and nation. Thanks for your time, and God Bless

1009		Aug 3 2017 2:04PM	Mrs. Shirley Parkin	Please play fair and establish unbiased voting districts to make our elections fair and democratic. Thank you. We count on you to represent us.
1010		Aug 3 2017 2:17PM	Mr. Anthony Madejczyk	Politicians should be able to pick their constituents. This violates the very idea of representative government. Create balanced districts based on population, not on demographics or party loyalty.
1011		Aug 3 2017 2:18PM	Mr. Steve Quessy	I am a resident and active voter citizen in North Carolina. I am demanding that the legislature abandon gerrymandered districting in favor of any political party. It is time for redistricting that does not allow party affiliation, race, religion or voting history in drawing electoral maps. The North Carolina constitution requires districts that conform to 1 person 1 vote equality and minimal cutting and slicing of counties. The redistricting process should be handed to an independent and non partisan commission. In terms of immediate redistricting I understand a group led by Tom Ross has already proposed fair redrawing of districts - these should be considered in this session. Enough is enough, legislators do not get to choose their
1012		Aug 3 2017 3:02PM	Laura Ford	It is past time to create districts without gerrymandering. We need straightforward districts, free from partisan machinations. This issue is important for people to have confidence in our state government. We need to avoid the controversy that has landed us before the courts again and again. Do the right thing!
1013		Aug 3 2017 3:05PM	Mr. Mike Jennings	The redistricting process should be fair, transparent and open to the public. The process should not include the addresses of incumbents or candidates as well as residents' voting histories. The process should respect existing municipal and county boundaries whee possible. The maps should not divide communities of interest . The districts should be compact and contiguous.
1014		Aug 3 2017 3:12PM	Dr. Carol Soroos	Districts should: Be compact and contiguous Follow state and federal law Be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout and where the incumbent lives.
1015		Aug 3 2017 3:33PM	Ms. Tammy Dickens	Legislative redistricting maps, should be drawn without, racial or political bias. Racially-gerrymandering is unconstitutional and reprehensible. These are the same voter suppression tactics, that are being used by the Trump administration now
1016		Aug 3 2017 3:37PM	Ms. barbara cappadony	I believe that the criteria for redistricting should require that the districts should.... Be compact and contiguous Follow state and federal law Be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout and where the incumbent lives. Thank you for your service to our state, Barbara
1017		Aug 3 2017 3:54PM	Patricia Smar	Please follow these keys to end gerrymandering: Race is Key: Map drawers shall ensure that it is possible for Black voters to elect their candidates of choice. Also, dividing compact Black populations to weaken their power is prohibited. These are central requirements of the Voting Rights Act. Obey Laws: In addition to the federal Voting Rights Act, maps must abide by the US and NC constitutions and laws. "One person, one vote:" means districts must be very nearly equal in population. Geographic Compactness: Map drawers shall create compact districts, without odd tentacles. Compactness can be evaluated with mathematical measures. Contiguity: Draw districts that don't skip over areas or join two areas at just one point on the map. Count Incarcerated Persons: as residents of their pre-incarceration home or family residence for purposes of redistricting. No Favoritism: Map drawers shall not use the addresses of current lawmakers, or the party affiliation or voting history of voters, or other data to help a party or politician. Respect Communities of Interest: Map drawers must avoid dividing a "community of interest," such as people with similar cultural, ethnic and economic interests; a local government district; neighborhoods that have worked together on issues; and other relationships that can be documented to show common interests. Respect County Boundaries: Map drawers should make every effort to keep counties whole. If counties or towns must be split, a statement must explain why. Evaluate Fairness: Before it is approved, a map must be evaluated for overall racial bias and partisan competitiveness. There are a variety of tools recognized by courts to measure racial and partisan fairness.
1018		Aug 3 2017 3:59PM	Ms. Gail Maddox	Redistricting should be done by a third, independent party. Under no situation should NC Democrats or Republicans draw the new district lines. This practice of having the ruling party draw district lines led to gerrymandering to the extreme and districts being found unconstitutional as is the case with this last redistricting.

1019		Aug 3 2017 4:00PM	Ms. Jinny Batterson	Please do your best to create fair district maps after as extensive a public comment period as possible given your September 1 deadline. It's nearly time for the next census; the endless jockeying for political advantage through gerrymandered districts is not serving anyone well. Whatever "advantage" one political party or another may gain is more than offset by an increasing distaste for the way such an advantage is being sought. More and more of my acquaintances, especially younger ones, are changing their registrations to "unaffiliated" out of disgust for the hyper-partisan shenanigans currently masquerading as governance. We have lots of real problems. Please produce fair, openly arrived at maps, and then get on with the bipartisan work of solving problems!
1020		Aug 3 2017 4:03PM	Deborah Skinner	<p>Dear Honorable members of the Legislative Committee for Redistricting:</p> <p>As an informed and concerned citizen of this great state, I have concerns and hopes for the criteria that will be used in drawing new voting maps.</p> <p>Please give strong consideration to using a NON PARTISAN process for drawing the new maps. It is critical that political information like voter registration data, past election results and location of homes of incumbents be EXCLUDED from the process and the criteria.</p> <p>Please allow democracy to work in an equitable way in North Carolina. Draw districts that are compact and that keep communities together. Please do the right thing and allow citizens to have their voices heard equitably in the voting process in a fair manner.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration of my comments.</p> <p>Respectfully,</p> <p>Deborah S. Skinner</p>
1021		Aug 3 2017 4:10PM	Dr. James McGlinn	For democracy to work, the vote needs to be meaningful. Take away representative govt, and deal with the chaotic consequences of a frustrated and angrv people.
1022		Aug 3 2017 4:16PM	Mr. Charles Sims	I support the redistricting for Person, Granville, Durham, Caswell districts.
1023		Aug 3 2017 4:24PM	Rachel Kuliani	I would like to see NC should follow other states’ examples of a non-partisan commission that does not use voter registration data, past election results, or where incumbents live when drawing maps. I also feel that the state should draw compact districts that keep communities together so their needs and voices are heard by our elected officials
1024		Aug 3 2017 4:42PM	Mrs. Karen Balcom	I understand that although there will be a hearing for public comments regarding redistricted voting maps for NC, that the NC Legislature has opted to not share those maps with the public, even though they are already ready. This is so frustrating. The citizens of NC are tired of back-room deals, secret meetings, and last-minute trickery. Just do your job in a transparent fashion. Serve the citizens of the state rather than yourselves. Make maps that are bipartisan and keep communities together. It is the only way we can have fair elections in our state.
1025		Aug 3 2017 4:51PM	Mr. Gene Griffith	With all due respect to the Leadership of the General Assembly, I believe that the course to redistricting that best serves the people of North Carolina involves an independent, non-partisan board utilizing computer generated maps based on current population data. Thank you for your service to our Great State.
1026		Aug 3 2017 5:07PM	John Palermo	<p>We are very happy with our current congressman, Congressman Mark Walker. The immediate past maps have produced an engaged and well informed public, on matters of public policy, and elements of the previous maps should be retained where allowed by law.</p> <p>Please also note that we believe: 1. Counties should be kept whole as prescribed by law. 2. Cities and Towns should be kept as whole as possible. 3. We should respect communities of interest. 4. Race should not be a factor in the drawing of legislative districts.</p> <p>The courts should respect the role of the General Assembly, who under the Federal and State Constitutions and the laws of the State of North Carolina are responsible for redistricting.</p> <p>John Palermo Chair Chatham County Republican Party</p>
1027		Aug 3 2017 5:14PM	Dr. Kent Wicker	<p>Democracy will fail unless the people can believe their districts don't disenfranchise them. In a democracy, the people choose their political representatives. If it's the other way around, democracy has failed in this state.</p> <p>Please give us a fair and open process that scrupulously avoids both racial and partisan gerrymandering. That is literally the very LEAST you can do for this state.</p>

1028		Aug 3 2017 5:14PM	Mr. Garrett White	When drawing maps, the goal should be in create an engaged and informed public voting block. As I have travel across the state, I have noticed an increase of public awareness in local and state government. This is due to the former maps allowing counties kept whole, towns not being split, and the general respect of the communities interest being respected. The redistricting process should be completed by people who actually live in the counties represented, not a judge who wants to legislate from the bench. The writing of the new maps should be completed in a manner that respects counties, towns, and communities, similar to the former maps.
1029		Aug 3 2017 5:16PM	Mr. Jack Brown	It is quite interesting to note that the Democrats did some redistricting expecially the one that Mel Watts had from Charlotte to Greensboro. That was okay for them to make deals like this, but when the Republican legislature make some changes it is unconstutuional. Thats why we are in such a big mess today. These left wing Judges make the rules as they go along, and I for one am sick of it
1030		Aug 3 2017 5:19PM	Dr. Carl Mumpower	I appreciate your efforts to find a good landing place on redrawing districts amidst so many obstacles - legal vagaries, hostile media and an habituated adversarial posture from the opposition party. Thanks for pressing on through the silliness and savaderv.
1031		Aug 3 2017 5:19PM	Dr. Nancy Friedman	<p>Understanding the history of racism is crucial to end gerrymandering. In addition to deep community involvement, fair redistricting should follow basic principles.</p> <p>The Federal Voting Rights Act set clear guidelines for fair voting and some of North Carolina’s districts are unconstitutional. It troubles me that the same person who drew the previous maps is drawing the new maps. He clearly believes in manipulating the district maps on partisan grounds. He states that openly. Here are the important principles as I see them. Other states have adopted these principles.</p> <p>Race should not be taken into account.</p> <p>Maps must be constitutional. Voters should be able to choose their legislators and not the other way around.</p> <p>Geography should be respected with compact districts. There should not be odd shapes which favor certain parties.</p> <p>Voting history of citizens or party affiliation should not be considered in drawing the maps.</p> <p>Finally, proposed maps should be available for review and for public comment.</p>
1032		Aug 3 2017 5:22PM	Mr. Michael Eisenberg	<p>I don't have a warm and fuzzy feeling for a fair outcome. The same players that drew the unconstitutional maps are still at the table including Tom Hofeller.</p> <p>How can you prove me wrong?</p>
1033		Aug 3 2017 5:23PM	Mrs. Reina Steele	Please consider setting up Independent Commissions to draw FAIR voting maps in North Carolina. Thank you for your serious consideration in this matter.
1034		Aug 3 2017 5:23PM	Charles Tinsley	I believe the maps have been successful and efficient in the election process. The existing maps should be used and referenced regularly in the drawing of the new maps.
1035		Aug 3 2017 5:34PM	Mr. Haskell Davis	I don't think race should be a factor in this redistricting. We should keep out county and cities intact. I am pleased with my representatives. Don't try to help the Democrats by making it biased. Thanks
1036		Aug 3 2017 5:36PM	Mr. Francis Chandler	<p>I am deeply concerned about legislative redistricting. It is well past time to have done this, and for the sake of democracy these districts should be redrawn with these three factors involved:</p> <p>Compact and contiguous,</p> <p>Follow state and federal law,</p> <p>Be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout and where the incumbent lives.</p> <p>Thank your for your attention to this matter. It would be nice for North Carolina to be considered to be a democracy again.</p>
1037		Aug 3 2017 5:36PM	Mr. John Kretschmer	Please return the voice and the vote to the great people of North Carolina. To do so, please adopt an independent, non-partisan and non-political process for drawing new maps. Please exclude political information, including voter registration data, past election results, and especially information regarding incumbents, and where they may live. Please draw compact and contiguous districts that keep communities together. As a Tar Heel Born & Bred, I am looking forward to my home state returning to a democratically representative government - one that better represents our society as whole.

1038		Aug 3 2017 5:37PM	Dr. Michael Justice	I would like to see Districts based on compact geographic populations...closely following county lines as much as possible, without regard to race or political party. We must cut out the gaming for political advantage and establish credibility with the electorate. Often said, we need voters to select their representatives not the reverse! Thanks
1039		Aug 3 2017 5:45PM	Mrs. Raines Kuppin	I urge you to please leave politics out of the process when drawing new voting maps ... North Carolinians deserve better than political gerrymandering. Thank you.
1040		Aug 3 2017 5:48PM	Richard Churchill	I strongly urge you to consider using available software programs that can draw congressional district along rational, non-partisan parameters. This is so important, so please do not use party politics when considering the contours of these districts. Do this for the citizens of our state, regardless of their race or party affiliation.
1041		Aug 3 2017 5:51PM	Dr. Dan Graham	Electoral Districts should be competitive for voters--by party ID and demographically inclusive.
1042		Aug 3 2017 5:51PM	Mr. Lawrence Slack	Redistrict for *fairness* to give every voter a chance to make an impact (which is obviously the *proper* thing to do) and do not redistrict for the sake of political parties (which is obviously the IMPROPER thing to do). Thank you.
1043		Aug 3 2017 5:58PM	Mr. Frank Picco	I believe that the criteria should require that the districts should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be compact and contiguous Follow state and federal law Be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout and where the incumbent lives I hope you on the Joint Redistricting Committee and your legislators will seriously consider my opinion for a fair redistricting method for all of North Carolina. Thank you.
1044		Aug 3 2017 5:59PM	Donna Drinnen	Fair maps will benefit everyone in the long run.
1045		Aug 3 2017 5:59PM	Mr. Bill Fletcher	After 40 years of Democrats drawing the district lines, did the Federal Courts get involved, ruling that their lines promoted racial inequality and political unfairness? They always appeased their minority zealots with districts that greatly favored their candidates and gave their old line Democrats every benefit of the doubt! I congratulate our lawmakers for their diligence in producing fair and "politically correct" district maps! We should never split up our rural counties to appease the liberal cause. Under the Republican leadership in the General Assembly, minority members still account for over 16 % of the the seats. I'm not sure if it was ever that high under the Democrats' control. Just look at the cost of these extra days to operate the Legislature with taxpayers dollars!!!
1046		Aug 3 2017 6:04PM	Dr. Raja Ramanathan	Please make the districts blended and fair. Stop trying to get only a certain party elected and let us all vote together. We are neighbors. You should stop trying to divide us along lines that mean nothing bevond partv. Thanks.
1047		Aug 3 2017 6:05PM	William Lanier	Let it be known: <p>As a politically cognizant and active citizen of North Carolina I am perfectly happy with all my current Republican Legislators under whom more access and information on public policy has produced a better politically aware and participatory public. I attribute this to our most current legislative districting maps which should be retained without change.</p> <p>In respecting our current maps, counties and townships will remain as whole as possible while eliminating race as a consideration for the redrawing of legislative districts.</p> <p>I also ask that our General Assembly's role be respected as this body is responsible for such action under Federal and State Constitutions of</p>
1048		Aug 3 2017 6:09PM	Mr. David Carroll	In the interest of fairness to the voters of North Carolina, I implore the North Carolina General Assembly avail themselves of the services of the non-partisan joint project between Duke University and Common Cause North Carolina. This body is comprised of an equal number of Republicans and Democrats and the panel of 10 retired judges was led by former N.C. Supreme Court Chief Justices Rhoda Billings and Henry Frye. Congressional district lines should never be entrusted to a partisan body.
1049		Aug 3 2017 6:11PM	Dr. Robert Penny	I would like to obtain a copy of the proposed maps!
1050		Aug 3 2017 6:16PM	Dr. Magaretha Herman	Please provide any drafts of maps that you have already made so that the public may comment on those drafts as well as provide suggestions for the principles to use in identifying new districts. The core principle I hope for is that districts are drawn in such a way that they are competitive. It is discouraging to have no choice at the ballot box. And please make the districts compact, with populations as equal as possible
1051		Aug 3 2017 6:17PM	Mrs. Susan Smith	It is the right for every voter to have their vote count. Gerrymandering silences votes. Let's institute fair districting that is bipartisan - I don't want anyone trying to manipulate districts for a win. And that goes for both parties. Our votes matter! Thank you.
1052		Aug 3 2017 6:18PM	Mrs. Amee Stewart	Redistricting should be done by another means than a partisan body, perhaps by computer pick. Whatever, the districts should be drawn w/o consideration of race or political affiliation. Never again should illiegitament legislators be allowed to govern. There should be "do over" of every single bill that has passed since 2016. Please end this practice for once and for all. It threatens our democracy.

1053		Aug 3 2017 6:34PM	Mr. John van Arnold	<p>To the legislative redistricting committee:</p> <p>As a native North Carolinian, I have watched with dismay over the last two decades, as the democratic ideals which were taught in our public schools have been trampled upon by the people who were entrusted with protecting our democracy. Given that we have been unable to overcome our partisan tendencies, it is time for us to change the way we decide our state representative and senatorial districts. It is time for us to change the way we draw our congressional districts.</p> <p>We need to move to a nonpartisan commission that draws our legislative and congressional districts based on community and geography not on the way small groups vote. The trust we have placed in our legislature is being called into question by the partisan behavior. We need to return to a democratic approach to electing our representatives rather than having our representatives choose people who agree with them in closing off all other discussion. Please, let us alter the way we draw our representative districts for both North Carolina legislature and Congress.</p> <p>Sincerely, John Van Arnold</p>
1054		Aug 3 2017 6:35PM	Mrs. Deborah Beroth	I believe that the districts should be fair, compact and allow everyone's vote to count. They should be competitive so that we have a choice of someone to vote for. We are a state that has about equal % of Republicans and Democrats and our districts should reflect that. It is only right that we should see the maps and then be able to comment.
1055		Aug 3 2017 6:41PM	Dr. Samuel SteeleAA	Current districts and Representative are fair and more than satisfactory. This foolish exercise to move two or more lines or go overboard and redistrict the entire state for petty politics driven by a vocal minority is absurd. Legislators should hold their ground with minimal change in districts.
1056		Aug 3 2017 6:43PM	Mr. John Vanover	Let's have an independent non-partisan body draw up all our districts. Doesn't that sound like the most truly democratic approach; for the good of the state and country?
1057		Aug 3 2017 6:52PM	Robert Stryker	<p>North Carolina has been especially egregious in the past with statewide electoral results (in terms of seats won per party) that are far out of alignment with the popular vote throughout the state. While currently the beneficiary is the Republican party, the Democrats have had their share of similar activity in the past.</p> <p>There are significant differences between rural and urban North Carolinians, what they care about, what issues are important to them, and how they feel others should behave. While these differences are real, the current battle to control the Assembly or Senate and enforce the will of one group onto the other is counterproductive and divisive. A new normal needs to be discovered, one that will work for both urban and rural citizens.</p> <p>Having one party in a consistent majority due to gerrymandering will not move this state any closer to solving the real issues that divide us. Counties should move closer to a 'home rule' style of government, where rural counties have more control over their laws, and urban counties will as well.</p> <p>Regardless of what issue is the topic of the day, whether it be gun rights, abortion rights, taxes, or any other, forcing 49% to live under the edicts of the 51% is wrong. Compromise positions must be found, and they won't be found so long as one party has a lock on power. They won't be found, because, when one party has a majority, they have no incentive whatsoever to actually consider the voices, desires, or wishes of the minority.</p> <p>Gerrymandering is causing a growing state, one that has done a lot to improve the lives of their citizens and attract new residents and business, to be at odds with itself, and at odds with its new residents.</p>
1058		Aug 3 2017 6:56PM	Ms. Kay Crisp	I see no reason for redistricting. We have voted in our own districts, know where the boundaries are and respect those boundaries
1059		Aug 3 2017 7:00PM	Ms. Patricia Williams	We know that the redistricting maps have already been redrawn, under a veil of secrecy, and without the participation of Senators and Representatives of BOTH parties. If these new maps are fair and constitutional, then why keep them a secret? The public and your fellow legislators should be given the courtesy (if not the right) to review the new maps, with ample time for public comment and meaningful discussion. To do anything less is to suggest that the only way for the majority party to retain its majority position is by redrawing district lines that fail to support the idea of democracy in its truest and fullest sense. I hope you will do the right thing: release the maps next week, as well as dates when public hearings will be held
1060		Aug 3 2017 7:07PM	Mr. Conrad Pogorzelski	When the Democrats do it, it's OK. When the Republicans do it; it's always challenged. We need to figure it out. Put the blame on the Democrats.
1061		Aug 3 2017 7:16PM	Mr. Joseph Sistare	The people of North Carolina are tired of the partisanship that is afflicting politics here and the country. All Americans should put fair elections... the foundation of our democracy... before partisan politics.

1062		Aug 3 2017 7:18PM	Mrs. Carol Ann Minor	Be compact and contiguous •Follow state and federal law •Be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout and where the incumbent lives
1063		Aug 3 2017 7:28PM	Mr. Kevin Lusk	It is time for fair districts!
1064		Aug 3 2017 7:29PM	Mrs. Mary Kane	Districts need to be drawn by a non-partisan group, not the NCGA itself. They also need to be as compact as possible, based on GENERAL population and with as many natural dividers as possible (such as major rivers, county lines, etc.). The court ordered this to be done A FULL YEAR AGO and it is beyond ridiculous that this process has been drawn out this long. Heck, there are computer programs that can do this in a couple of hours! Get it done ASAP. We citizens are tired of the GOP in the NCGA dragging their feet
1065		Aug 3 2017 7:40PM	Dr. Jonathan Kotch	Real democracy requires an informed electorate. It would help the democratic process if the public could see the legislative redistricting maps before public hearings were held. It is important that the maps avoid even the suggestion of racial or political bias. Thank you.
1066		Aug 3 2017 7:48PM	Mr. John Hall	I think the maps should be drawn without regard for a political party. If it was wrong for Democrats to gerrymander lines, then it is just as wrong for Republicans. I think all members of the legislature should think more about the people of this state and less about their reelection.
1067		Aug 3 2017 7:48PM	Todd Jenkins	I support non-partisan redistricting.
1068		Aug 3 2017 7:52PM	Mrs. Linda Efird	Stop redostricting
1069		Aug 3 2017 7:54PM	Tina Forsberg	Do not be intimidated by those who would weaponize our justice system against the wishes of the voters.Be bold.
1070		Aug 3 2017 7:56PM	Mrs. Michelle Haller	I am frustrated that the issue of redistricting keeps popping up. The last district maps had bipartisan support and approval, yet, here we go again? It is unnecessary. I appreciate the current representation our county has and their ongoing efforts to communicate with their constituents, regardless of party or race or any other sub category critics like to say are not properly represented. I know my representatives in the House and Senate, and follow their activities to the extent that I can, and they are accessible to ALL, and listen. I also have a concern for my county, Johnston, being further fractured by new districts. It is already problematic that we are split into two House Districts, and have three different state Senators, and two Congressional districts. Ballots get quite confusing for citizens, and the more we keep drawing new lines, it seems the worse it gets. Rather than gerrymandering districts to get what some feel is the perfect racial mix, I'd like to see district lines focused on counties and proper regional representation. How can a representative properly know the needs of multiple counties, and pieces thereof? It gets a little ridiculous for them and for we, the people, when common sense is abandoned in the process. I wish we could leave well enough alone, and stick with the maps that most have agreed are fairly drawn, and save us the time, money, and headache of more change.
1071		Aug 3 2017 7:58PM	Mr. David Williams	I understand that the new maps have already been drawn. If so, they need to be released before public comments. Assuming that understanding is not correct, the criteria for redistricting seem simple to me. They are embodies in the Constitution: The state's Constitutional requirements for redistricting every 10 years (which reflect federal requirements) are: One person must equal one vote- Each district that elects one representative to the legislature is required to be approximately equal in population to every other such district. Consideration of minorities- The Voting Right Act and Court cases decided under it forbid drawing districts that dilute minority voting strength. Impermissible consideration of race- The General Assembly and its redistricting plans are also subject to lawsuits if consideration of race impermissibly dominate the redistricting process. Districts must be contiguous- Under the State Constitution all parts of a House or Senate district must touch, with no detached parts. Division of Counties must be minimized- The State Constitution says that no county shall be divided. Court cases have determined that the "Whole County Provision" must be honored to the extent it can be honored. I recognize populations are not evenly distributed and some of these are difficult to achieve. Use the following criteria will allow the state to exhibit the use of Best Practices and mitigate the chance of additional litigation: The process be totally transparent; Districting is non-partisan, excluding all data that would belie this; Strictly apply the Stephenson process to define VRA districts and to draw county clusters that comply with North Carolina's Whole County
1072		Aug 3 2017 8:05PM	Dr. Marilyn Smith	I am writing to urge the NC GA to include as guidelines for redrawing the districts that will result in fair, equitable districts. For example, that the districts be compact, contiguous, follow Federal and State laws, and especially ignore political factors.
1073		Aug 3 2017 8:06PM	Dr. Wendy Wieber	Those who redraw the maps should be independent and non partisan. The fact that the individuals who won elections unfairly control the redesigning of districts tempts further rigging. We really should hold new elections to be fair.
1074		Aug 3 2017 8:10PM	Mrs. Judith Barton	Regardless of what body set what dates and when, it is beyond time that legislative redistricting is properly carried out in NC.

1075		Aug 3 2017 8:11PM	Mr. mike Hinton	Overall I am very pleased with our current legislators and the current districts have energized people and created a much better informed electorate. the current maps should be retained except where courts have ruled them illegal. Counties and municipalities should be kept as whole as possible as the law prescribes. Race should not be a factor and the court should respect the actions of the General Assembly in doing their constitutional duty. People are tired of this.
1076		Aug 3 2017 8:16PM	Mr. John Towler	Whose ox is being gored? Right now the Republican majority is sticking it to the Democrats on multiple fronts. Probably feels good, but there's always been an ebb and flow to political power and the majority of today will be the minority of tomorrow. It is time to put into place legislation that allows for the creation of a nonpartisan group for the creating of congressional (state and federal) districts. These squiggly districts carved out to preserve power are an embarrassment. Do the right thing and take the politics out of creating districts once and for all
1077		Aug 3 2017 8:16PM	Mr. Isaac Jacobs	Please stop using racial bias to redraw districts!
1078		Aug 3 2017 8:18PM	Mrs. Deborah Williams	I have attached a link to a Duke Univ. project which provides a very good proposal for redistricting. https://sanford.duke.edu/articles/nonpartisan-redistricting-panel-reveals-unofficial-nc-congressional-voting-man
1079		Aug 3 2017 8:20PM	Charles Talley	I want state lawmakers to support nonpartisan redistricting. It is time for lawmakers to pledge to honesty, decency and integrity and make redistricting fair and equitable.
1080		Aug 3 2017 8:26PM	Ms. Kathleen Valenti	I urge all state elected representatives to form a non partisan districting commission to draw districts according to Geography rather than political advantage for either party. The current bizarre district lines favor republican candidates to The point that there is no contest. Be fair. Allow all votes to count and all voters voices to be heard
1081		Aug 3 2017 8:28PM	Diane Bauknight	Make the process fair and transparent. No more gerrymandering!
1082		Aug 3 2017 8:31PM	Mr. Josh Prater	The current maps, as well as the system used to create them, are unacceptable and limit true, equal participation in our democracy for thousands of North Carolinians. They are frankly shameful. They reduce the power of the vote for thousands of us - especially for our black neighbors. Given our state's history, I am appalled that we still have to have these conversations. I will refer you to recent court decisions, of which I am sure that you are aware, which explain the problematic nature of these maps in great detail. All that said, this is an opportunity for the General Assembly to show real leadership by committing to a fair, non-partisan redistricting process that will truly support the idea of "one person, one vote." We urge you to take up the proposals being made to draw fair, rational, and competitive districts. Our state and our democracy are made stronger through greater participation. If a party has faith in its ideals and policies, let them win a majority by campaigning and winning the support of their constituents, not by buying a home in a "safe" party district and getting a nod from the local party office.
1083		Aug 3 2017 8:32PM	Anita Simha	I came to learn that a redistricting plan already exists but has not yet been shown to the public. I request that a public comment session be held after the plans are revealed because otherwise the public cannot in good faith believe that our comments have any influence at all. For a round of revisions, I request that districts be compact, that they encompass whole counties, and that they not consider the addresses of incumbents. Thank you for taking the people's concerns into account
1084		Aug 3 2017 8:38PM	Mr. Kevin Austin	I am writing as the Chairman of the Yadkin County Board of Commissioners. Yadkin County has been served very well by our current members of the General Assembly. We are in Senate District 31 which is sure to be affected by the new maps due to the fact that District 31 surrounds District 32, one of the few designated for reconfiguration. Our Senator understands Yadkin County very well and has been of great assistance to all of our citizens. We are very hopeful that we will remain in Senator Krawiec's District. Our House District 73 is made up of Yadkin County, Alexander County, and a small portion of Wilkes County that connects Yadkin and Alexander. We in Yadkin consider Alexander County our sister county. We are of similar size and share the same positions on matters of the General Assembly. We are hopeful that the vast amount of changes that will be necessary to meet the Court's requirements will not result in a change to our House District. Thank you for your consideration. Kevin Austin Chairman, Yadkin County Board of Commissioners
1085		Aug 3 2017 8:43PM	Ms. Lucy Young	District boundaries should: Be compact and contiguous; Follow state and federal law; Be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout and where the incumbent lives.
1086		Aug 3 2017 8:44PM	Stephen Hopkins	I hope the re-districting map is not being drawn in a vacuum . I hope you will make this available for public comment, before you make this law.

1087		Aug 3 2017 8:46PM	Michael Williams	Compact districts are the most logical choice. End gerrymandering by BOTH parties, and adopt compact districts immediately!
1088		Aug 3 2017 8:48PM	Michele Holland	We need a nonpartisan committee to draw these maps and ensure district lines represent the people, not a specific group of voters or constituents. A basic premise of democracy is that every citizen's voice is valued equally; in our current system, that's simply not true. Our system has created a legislature that feels no compunction to act in anything other than their own interest, and has no incentive to compromise. Please - stand up for your citizens and move forward with an independent, nonpartisan committee.
1089		Aug 3 2017 9:00PM	Mr. Dale Leatham	I am extremely happy with my current set of legislators and would expect them to remain as such after the re-drawing of the districts. Whole counties and cities should be a major goal of the re-districting. RACE should NEVER be a factor of re-districting and simply because a certain area has a majority population of one race it shouldn't be factored into the overall equation. Please just follow state law when re-drawing the legislative lines and there shouldn't be any further problems
1090		Aug 3 2017 9:03PM	Dr. Jim McGlinn	A healthy democracy requires that all of the citizens know that their vote counts. Heavily gerrymandered districts make those who are minorities in those districts feel powerless and unrepresented. As a consequence, frustration and anger can arise causing a breakdown in relationships in the community. For the good of our democracy, end gerrymandering and create districts that naturally fall along geographic lines or population densities without regard to political party.
1091		Aug 3 2017 9:03PM	Mr. Gil Cruz	This day and age I would find it hard to find an unbiased individual, party or organization to complete the redistricting process with out the use of some computer based inputs. My question will the public be able to view these redrawn lines before approval and just what will that approval process look like.
1092		Aug 3 2017 9:03PM	Mr. Timothy Jones	Help Republicans in Orange County have a chance in representation, make Chapel Hill its own District and let the rest of the County join something like the old 6th congressional district.
1093		Aug 3 2017 9:06PM	Mr. Jonathan Cumbie	I am very concerned with the interference of the courts in a legislative duty to define NC House and Senate districts. I do not want my current Senator and House Rep to be changed. I am pleased with the current districts and wish to see counties continue to be kept within a few districts as possible.
1094		Aug 3 2017 9:15PM	Joe Garza	It is time to have the redistricting maps drawn by an independent non-partisan party. The legislature should no longer participate in how boundaries are drawn to avoid all bias. This will benefit the state in the long run. My hope is that this legislature has the will to do what is best for the people of the state and not their political party regardless of the argument on who did this first or last. History shows that the political pendulum will always swing from one side to another and it is just a matter of time when the current majority will be the minority again. You will want to secure fairness for the future and not only consider the present. It is the responsibility of the legislature to do what is best for all people and not just for some people.
1095		Aug 3 2017 9:20PM	Mr. Chris Sargent	Please ensure everyone gets a voice once the redistricting is completed, no surgical exclusions of individual groups. You may have been elected by Republicans, but you serve the whole state.
1096		Aug 3 2017 9:23PM	Mark Shuman	I am pleased with my representatives in the North Carolina legislature. I honestly feel that cities and ciunties should remain whole and not be carved up. Districts should be left as they are now.
1097		Aug 3 2017 9:23PM	Mr. Michael Arensdorf	Let's see the new maps - we can't comment until we see the maps!
1098		Aug 3 2017 9:34PM	Dr. Karen Ziegler	These legislators do not represent the people of North Carolina. This is an illegal assembly. And I am suspicious of having the same people who racially gerrymandered them before draw them again. This should be a bipartisan effort. This is an outrage and it needs to be corrected immediately
1099		Aug 3 2017 9:39PM	Mr. David McLintock	It's about time that the legislature stopped its partisan and racist policies and moved into the real world by empowering and encouraging all free men and women to participate in our beautiful democratic process. A good step away from the gerrymandered oligarchy that Republicans have set up to make the rich and powerful richer. Just be fair and considerate of the public good this time. Thanks for your service.
1100		Aug 3 2017 9:43PM	Mr. Eric Donat	I'd like to see fair districts that are drawn by an independent commission as opposed to the party in power.
1101		Aug 3 2017 9:43PM	Ruby Sinreich	I am a mom that grew up in NC and am raising my family here. I have been a registered NC voter since 1990 and have voted at least once every year since then. I am extremely troubled by the extremely unfair voting districts we have now. If you love this state as much as I do, then it should be more important to you that all its residents get their voice at the ballot box than that any particular party have a legislative majority. Our districts should never cross municipal lines and should only rarely cross county lines if absolutely necessary. All these contorted lines make it look like those in power don't think they can win without cheating. Show NC voters that you trust us and let us pick our own representatives.
1102		Aug 3 2017 9:54PM	Ms. Suzanne DuChanois	Please create fair, non partisan maps that allow voters to choose their leaders instead of legislators choosing their voters. Our democracy will not survive the distrust of and sustain for the legislative process that gerrymandering creates in the citizenry.

1103		Aug 3 2017 9:58PM	Michele Nix	<p>Dear NCGA Members,</p> <p>I'm currently represented by liberal Democrats and would love to be in a REPUBLICAN drawn district. Anything you can do to assist would be most appreciated.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Michele Nix</p>
1104		Aug 3 2017 10:04PM	Mrs. Ginny Cooper	<p>I was very involved in the last election and the districts for NCGA were very satisfactory to all concerned. There were no complaints in regard to districts. The only complaints we ever hear about come from activists groups, the voters here, of either party, have never complained about the NC legislative districts in my presence.</p>
1105		Aug 3 2017 10:09PM	Mrs. Annissa Clarke	<p>I am disabled and unable to attend the meeting on August 4th, but I would like to advocate for a nonpartisan districting process. This will serve the people of North Carolina by making our votes matter, regardless of which party happens to be in charge at any particular moment. I would like to see our districts drawn in ways that keep communities together, rather than trying to cluster voters of a particular political persuasion together, or drawing districts to keep incumbents in place. We will never have really free elections until all of our votes count equally. We will also find it more and more difficult to hold legislators accountable to their constituents, rather than big money interests, so long as they are able to escape consequences by virtue of "safe" districts. Please give the power of representative government back to all the people of North Carolina by adopting a nonpartisan districting process.</p>
1106		Aug 3 2017 10:10PM	Viren Makhijani	<p>Make unbiased and compact districts!</p>
1107		Aug 3 2017 10:11PM	Mrs. Siobhan Millen	<p>Hello, my name is Siobhan Millen. Thank you for allowing me to comment on the process of creating new districts for the North Carolina General Assembly. I am impressed by your statements last week at this committee hearing and by your attorney Mr. Strach's argument at the federal court that this committee intends to seek plentiful public input into its redistricting efforts. Indeed the three-judge panel's order last week lauded your "commendable goal of obtaining and considering public input and engaging in robust debate and discussion." In this spirit, I offer the following comment.</p> <p>My suggestion would be that you add one more criteria to the standard ones that many will undoubtedly suggest/ have already suggested this morning. To be clear, these standard criteria are compactness, contiguity, respect for political subdivisions, unconcern with party registration voters in proposed district, unconcern with who is the incumbent representative, avoidance of petty double bunking of the minority party, compliance with one-man-one vote principle, minimizing excessive efficiency gaps within legislative districts and compliance with the Voting Rights Act. The additional criteria which I suggest is that you keep in mind that North Carolina has 2.6 million registered Democrats, 2 million registered Republicans and 2 million unaffiliated voters. The districts you create should have a goal of electing Senators and House members roughly in proportion to those numbers. The current overwhelming Republican majority in both chambers suggests that something has gone seriously awry in our democracy. As evidence of this atrophied democracy, in 2016, nearly half of the contests for the North Carolina House and Senate had only one major party candidate on the ballot. Our General Assembly should reflect our electorate, and for this to happen, we need competitive districts.</p>
1108		Aug 3 2017 10:15PM	Mr. jeff dektor	<p>I would hope that the redistricting process is done by an independent commission. A commission that is not staffed by either party. And that the results of the commission have to be accepted as is, not subject to changes by either party.</p> <p>HR2 was a debacle. This does not have to be.</p>
1109		Aug 3 2017 10:16PM	Mr. George Burazer	<p>General Assembly leadership do not think that voting is an important civic duty.</p> <p>They are afraid of what the majority of od our citizens may prefer at the ballot box.</p>
1110		Aug 3 2017 10:19PM	Ms. Leila Daly	<p>People should choose their representatives. Representatives should not be choosing their people. Districts should be DEVOID of political bias. I am not surprised that so few people, especially my children's generation, vote or participate in government. They feel that the fix is on and that their vote does not count. Please give back the people their voice. Stop manipulating the process for your own gain.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>

1111		Aug 3 2017 10:21PM	Ms. Kate Capehart	<p>As a North Carolina voter, I support districts that accurately represent ALL the citizens of the state. I am opposed to the re-appointment of Representative David Lewis to Chair the House Select Committee on Redistricting and the use of tax dollars to pay Dr. Tom Hofeller as redistricting specialist again. Given their 2011 roles in depriving millions of their Constitutional right to be heard through their votes, I request they be barred from the privilege of participation in redistricting now and in the future. I want to see these criteria used to create maps for NC Senate and House and US Congressional districts that represent ALL NC citizens, not just those of one party:</p> <p>Compliance with the US Constitution and the Voting Rights Act (VRA) of 1965</p> <p>Districts with equal population to the greatest extent possible</p> <p>Districts that are geographically compact and contiguous</p> <p>Boundaries that respect communities of interest; specifically areas with shared social and economic interests, such as those shared by an agricultural community, an industrial area, or an area in which people share local natural resources for their livelihood (for example, fishing in coastal areas)</p> <p>Competitive districts to the greatest extent possible, as long as there’s no detriment to other criteria</p> <p>Districts that are NOT established with the major purpose of diluting the voting strength of any people or groups, including any political party</p>
1112		Aug 3 2017 10:23PM	Daniel Smith	Do not divide towns nor counties when considering redistricting. Also race should not be a factor when redrawing District Lines.
1113		Aug 3 2017 10:30PM	Mrs. Amy Hambright	I am an independent voter and I am very concerned about the blatantly partisan manner in which this process has been handled. I implore you to think of the residents of North Carolina and how maps can be drawn to represent all our citizens in the most fair way possible. The use of impartial criteria in determining districts and having meaningful time and opportunity for public comment would be an important first step in restoring faith in this process.
1114		Aug 3 2017 10:36PM	Mrs. Sylvia Short	Voting district maps should be drawn that are free from partisan politics! This should be bipartisan and handled in such a manner.
1115		Aug 3 2017 10:37PM	Dennis Tharrington	<p>Dear Sirs,</p> <p>Gerrymandering districts has been used now by both parties to say in power. It's not good for the state, its citizens, and probably not for the long term health of the party involved. It's time to stop the practice and have an independent committee or commission composed equally of Republicans and Democrats and perhaps an equal number of independents or some reduced percentage of independents. None of them should be in the legislature or involved in active politics. This type of committee should be able to draw maps and manage the process fairly. The process should be devoid of political pressure to draw maps to protect parties in power...rather, to provide fair representation of citizens. This has been done in some other states very successfully. Let's do it in North Carolina. After all, who doesn't</p>
1116		Aug 3 2017 10:39PM	Jan Droke	I support bipartisan redistricting in North Carolina. The courts have ruled. Please do the right thing for the citizens of our state.
1117		Aug 3 2017 10:39PM	Mrs. cheryl Pratt	I would like to see every vote count. Completely non-partizan mapping. Balance we desperately need balance.
1118		Aug 3 2017 10:46PM	Mr. Larry Hendrix	When drawing district maps, please consider economic development zones and existing partnerships. For example, Caldwell, Catawba, and Burke counties are considered the Foothills Economic Zone and should have the one representative for the entire zone. We do not need a district to include Hickory and Ashville, but exclude Morganton. Each zone should be representative of an economic area, where a large rural zone would have equal representation to a smaller zone of a metropolitan area. We have many more rural areas in the state than large urban areas, and the areas can not be represented in the same manner. A city's needs are much different that a rural town's needs, and a single representative can not address the needs of both at the same time. For example, Charlotte and Raleigh need mass transit systems, whereas Taylorsville needs additional funding for school buses to serve the one high school in the entire county. The major metropolitan areas of the state (Charlotte, Raleigh- Durham, the Tirangle, etc.) May have to have multiple representatives to equal out population numbers, but have representatives dedicated to one type of area (urban, suburban, or rural) would more accurately reflect the values of the State as a whole.
1119		Aug 3 2017 10:47PM	Mr. Wilfred Lack	I can't comment very much about our current house members because Buncombe County does not have any republicans in the House and we only have one of the two Senators. I do not like the way the current lines are drawn because not only is my County split, my city is also and even my precinct is split.(I changed my congressional district 4 times without moving)

1120		Aug 3 2017 10:48PM	Mrs. Esther Meter	Plainly put, gerrymandering is cheating. Every single vote should and must be counted as a single and equal entity. Re-districting by ethnicity, affluence or age is an unethical method of skewing the results. I oppose gerrymandering and ask that district lines be drawn without regard to partisan predictability. Please be fair for the sake of election integrity. Do the right thing.
1121		Aug 3 2017 10:50PM	Gayle Kemp	Fair districts must be drawn by independent nonpartisans. It is time for the voters to choose their representatives rather than the other way around. A true choice should be given to voters. To do otherwise only fosters the cynical view of our elected representatives. It keeps people from voting since they don't believe their vote will make a difference. The current bills are inadequate but a step in the right direction. Please choose democracy over partisanship.
1122		Aug 3 2017 10:50PM	Mr. Joshua Hill	The new maps should keep county, city, and town integrity as much as is possible. The current maps do need to be redrawn as they clearly have issues. Race should not be a determining factor in how maps are drawn. North Carolina and not the courts should decide what our maps look like. Partisanship should be thrown out in this important exercise. The Governor and all elected officials should accept the non partisan maps that North Carolinians expect the NCGA to draw. We should not waste more tax dollars or oxygen arguing over these after the NCGA finishes the new maps.
1123		Aug 3 2017 10:57PM	Ms. Joy Greenfield	How can we comment when a map of the redistricting is not provided. This is really a dumb way to do it & not very logical.
1124		Aug 3 2017 11:14PM	Ms. Chris Chato	These are 3 things the process of redistricting should do: - adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps - exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps - draw compact districts that keep communities together
1125		Aug 3 2017 11:27PM	Mr. William Bush	We need to get past the playground excuse of "But they used to do it to us!" and move on to a non-partisan redistricting commission. I have seen the software at work, and I know how fast it is. We can have a neutral group put together districts that let votes count instead of having members of the currently entrenched party count. Republicans ran a few years back on a promise to do this, and immediately claimed not to have time to do it. That was a lie. The current arrangement is a fraud on democratic principles.
1126		Aug 4 2017 12:18AM	Dr. Vijaya Bapat	Please make sure that each districts reflect the accurate percentage of all segments of population , that they make logical sense and not go through homes to enhance representation of one party over other as it is happening now. Our democracy is at stake.
1127		Aug 4 2017 12:45AM	Mr. Charles Wickline	Please get the job done. You keep moving me from one district to another.
1128		Aug 4 2017 12:50AM	Nick Zdanowicz	Get rid of the gerrymandering and figure out a fair way to win elections
1129		Aug 4 2017 2:09AM	Mr. Fred Pittenger	Only fair and impartial districts will provide the balanced leadership necessary to face the issues challenging North Carolina. The gerrymandered veto proof representation in the State House and Senate does not represent the broad views of North Carolinians and extremely partisan bills have passed as result.
1130		Aug 4 2017 2:31AM	Mr. Carlos Viales	<p>Dear NC General Assembly, like most citizens I am appalled that a court outside our State would meddle into our redistricting process. It is apparent to me that the NC GA has followed each and every law federal law and the Constitution of North Carolina to draw the current legislative districts, and there is no justification what-so-ever for the courts, particularly federal courts, to interfere with your work. Whatever happened with the powers not delegated to Congress being reserved to the States?</p> <p>However, since apparently we must endure such interference, make sure that the redistricting exercise about to be done first of all follows the North Carolina Constitution to the letter: create districts with counties as the NC Constitution mandates, and keep municipalities within the same districts as much as possible. Also remember that the best way to stop discriminating by race is simply to stop discriminating by race.</p> <p>The current district maps that the NC GA has produced in the recent past appear to me to have been lawful and fair. Those were – are – good districts that make elections relevant to the public in general. The mess that federal courts have created is not only inconsiderate but frankly counterproductive. The districts must be redrawn to satisfy some imaginary problem, but they can still be redrawn fairly as long as the rules set by the NC Constitution are followed.</p>

1131		Aug 4 2017 5:55AM	Ms. Amanda Height	<p>I look forward to this process moving forward to legal districts. I am concerned to see news stories about hiring the same individual to draw these districts that drew the illwgal ones that North Carolina spent so muh time and money defending. As you move forward, I urge you to hire an independent group to draw these maps. Anyone whose future career depends on where these lines are drawn cannot be impartial!</p> <p>An impartial process would result in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - compact districts (goodbye, snake) - respect for municipal, county and other existing boundaries - keeping communities together since folks that live, worship and work together have similar goals and issues <p>Mostly though, my hope is that North Carolina can get it right without furher marring our reputation that was so hard won. We used to be a beacon in the south and we can be again!</p> <p>Amanda Height NC native</p>
1132		Aug 4 2017 6:09AM	Mr. Jeffrey Jarlett	<p>I want my vote to matter. Every election this decade has been a landslide, or there wasn't any opposition.</p> <p>I'd prefer to live in a district where my vote matters- while not all districts can be set up this way- where I live now easily can be.</p> <p>Please no more extreme gerrymandering.</p>
1133		Aug 4 2017 6:15AM	Roberta Walls	<p>I just want districts drawn fairly. No more gerrymandering. If candidates can't win in a fairly drawn district, then they don't deserve to be elected. It's time to take map drawing away from lawmakers and put it in the hands of an indenendent commission.</p>
1134		Aug 4 2017 6:34AM	Ms. Hannah Stallkamp	<p>I am requesting that a fair redistricting be done using the following criteria: contiguity, consistency with natural and political boundaries (e.a. countv lines), and compactness.</p>
1135		Aug 4 2017 6:44AM	Ms. Karen Mallam	<p>I'm tired of having Democrats get 48% of the vote for Congressional representatives and only get 16% of the seats. My vote is not fairly represented.</p> <p>I'm also tired of the NCGOP slow-walking the redistricting process. The court ruled a year ago and you should have begun working then, particularly to include citizen participation.</p> <p>I would urge the Committee to adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps. You should draw compact districts that keep communities together, and exclude using political information (voter registration data, past election results, or where incumbents live) when drawing the maps.</p>
1136		Aug 4 2017 6:52AM	Dr. Judith Porter	<p>Please end gerrymandering and go to fairly drawn districts.</p>
1137		Aug 4 2017 6:56AM	Ms. Amanda McCaskill	<p>do you really need to be told what "the people" think about politicians fucking people by drawing up illegal voting lines that line their pockets?</p> <p>i am beyond disappointed in the direction of this state. i'm pretty sure the big boys club in raleigh doesn't give two shits about how things go for people in this state who live average lives.</p> <p>how about starting with ensuring voter rights, move on to ensuring the rights of every citizen and residentof this state (LGBTQ, especially), and stop sucking on the cocks of the religious right.</p> <p>then legalize marijuana, provide health care, feed the poor, re-imagine the industry of NC for the future since textiles and tobacco make for a poorer economy and we need to invest in futures industries. and stop sitting around raleigh with your dick in one hand and a fist full of bills in the other.</p> <p>i'm embarrassed to have been born in this state. it's like a mad sociological dash backwards lately with every new bill. the government and congressional people of North Carolina are failures. They need to be 100% replaced.</p>
1138		Aug 4 2017 6:58AM	Mr. Ray Hayes	<p>Iredell County being a Top Tier (top 20 out of 100) County should not be split in multiple districts with other Counties. We rightly have two house members. But we should have one (1) Senator representing our county, not two that have two other counties to be concerned with. We need a Senator that can concentrate on and promote the interests of our entire county!</p>
1139		Aug 4 2017 7:03AM	Ms. Sarah Keith	<p>I feel so strongly that the Republican party does not need to use underhanded, unfair and pathetic tactics such as gerrymandering to gain votes. All you have to do is be honest, work fairly for your constituents and stop all of the unflattering tactics you have been using. I am ashamed of this legislature and I AM A NATIVE NORTH CAROLINTIAN!</p>
1140		Aug 4 2017 7:06AM	Ms. Kelly Allen	<p>Do the right thing! Stop saying that the Democrats did it before. The current districts are a mockery, and they are clearly intended to silence the votes of our state's African-Americans. Put together a panel with equal representation of Republicans and Democrats to draw up the mans and work it out in a binartisan fashion.</p>

1141		Aug 4 2017 7:13AM	Mrs. Helen Hyatt	The NC district maps should be drawn by DENSITY of population, not by land mass. In this way there is an even playing field for both parties, and let the best man win! You cannot give more voting power to an area with 15 people than to an area with 100 voting people. Please just make the voting districts FAIR for everyone and then leave them alone until the next census
1142		Aug 4 2017 7:14AM	Ms. Sabrina McCoy	Shame on you all! You have managed to disenfranchise thousands and thousands of voters, effectively giving us no voice in our electoral process. If the districts had been drawn fairly, and not gerrymandered, how many of you would not be in that building taking this state backwards, trying to strip our governor of his traditional powers, and making our state a laughing stock. For once, do what is right for this state and it's people instead of your comfort and privilege! We are not stupid or blind; we see EXACTLY what you are doing.
1143		Aug 4 2017 7:16AM	Michele Ciulla-Strange	I would like to see the redistricting plans now. Make the, public today. Michele Strange
1144		Aug 4 2017 7:19AM	Sandra Casale	End gerrymandering. Fair voting practices.
1145		Aug 4 2017 7:41AM	Ms. Laura Fine	Please follow the following criteria in redistricting rather than basing districts on racist methods to ensure the illegally wrought continued domination of the Republicans: a. Districts are “compact and contiguous” meaning that there are no long tentacles that stretch out and barely touch the rest of the district. b. Districts follow state and federal laws. c. The most important: districts are drawn not considering factors such as the party affiliation of voters, where the incumbent lives, the results of previous elections, or other partisan factors. Thanks. Laura Fine
1146		Aug 4 2017 7:45AM	Mr. Kevin Brock	The Declaration of Independence declares the right of representation in the legislature "inestimable to the people and formidable to tyrants." Radical partisan gerrymandering denies large groups of North Carolina citizens that right, just as our Founders charged King George III of denying large groups of American colonists that right. Furthermore, the right to "free and fair elections" enumerated in our state Constitution is subverted when the results of voting, based on gerrymandered districts, do not reflect the will of the electorate. It is time NOW, not next year, not in the next decade, to do the right thing by ending radical partisan gerrymandering in our state once and for all.
1147		Aug 4 2017 7:45AM	Mrs. Rebecca Smith	New maps must be compact, contiguous, non-partisan and fair. Please design with a conscience. We are watching. Every NC citizen must have a vote that counts equally. This is no time for racial or partisan divisions. Do the right thing or judge will.
1148		Aug 4 2017 7:47AM	Erin Gunter	We should draw districts that are not based on voter registration data or past elections. We should be trying to promote districts that make sure that every individual in the state has their voice heard so that there needs can be met.
1149		Aug 4 2017 7:53AM	Aleece Hiller	adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps · exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps · draw compact districts that keep communities together
1150		Aug 4 2017 8:01AM	Ms. A M	Just go back to the original map. No one asked the General Assembly to change a thing. Maybe we as voter needs to tell whoever came up with this dumb idea that it time for them to loss their JOBS!!!!!!
1151		Aug 4 2017 8:26AM	Dr. Manoj Wunnava	Please use an unbiased consulting service that is nonpartisan. Ideally, every district should be a swing district. Let's get past the acrimony of yesterday and have districts that candidates win on the merit of their messaging to the voters and their character, not because of partisan advantage. Thank you!
1152		Aug 4 2017 8:27AM	Mrs. Niharika Wunnava	Please use an unbiased consulting service that is nonpartisan.
1153		Aug 4 2017 8:27AM	Mr. James McKenzie	I have been around long enough to know that it was the Democrats that created District 12 and yet they have been able to lay the blame at the feet of the Republicans. Why, because the Republicans do not know how to effectively communicate and fight. Looking at the entire State one has to wonder what the legislators were smoking when they created the current districts. How about simple clean boundaries and forget everything except population.
1154		Aug 4 2017 8:28AM	Ms. Ashley Montague	Hello and thank you for your service to North Carolina and its citizens. I am a voter and think it is critical that we have fair districts that represent all citizens of NC, not just one party. I am asking that districts are redrawn so that they are in compliance with the Constitution and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, that they are equal in population as much as possible, competitive, contiguous, and that do NOT favor one party or demographic group over another. Please work in a bipartisan way to make every vote count! Thank you
1155		Aug 4 2017 8:29AM	William Krick	I would like to see compact districts as a priority. Also, follow census block lines when defining the district borders. They're already there for you. Just use them. I'd like every district election be a competitive race. Overall, I'd like to see the total Republican vs Democrat legislators in the state more closely reflect the actual makeup of North Carolina voters. The voters choose their legislators, not the other way around. Thank you

1156		Aug 4 2017 8:30AM	John Titen	<p>If gerrymandering and voter suppression are the only ways that a party is able to win, it is likely that their ideals are not truly representative of their constituents. Your ideas should stand on their merit, not how well you can draw odd lines on maps and pack like-minded constituents into easy to win sections. When this happens, while possibly technically legal, you are blatantly abusing the system in ways that are unfair to the people you represent.</p> <p>Please use this opportunity to create maps as fairly as possible, working with Democrats and ideally using non-partisan sources to draw maps that represent the actual population of our state. If this means that you loose a seat or two, then most likely you should not of had it in the first place.</p> <p>Rather than pointing at all the times that Democrats have done this when they drew the maps, take this as an opportunity to do the right thing. If you don't, when the Democrats are in a position to draw the maps again(and it is short-sighted to believe they will not be at some point,) they will have no reason to not surgically disenfranchise Republicans, just as you have done them.</p> <p>It has to stop somewhere and that somewhere can be you!</p>
1157		Aug 4 2017 8:30AM	Mr. john leatherman	It is better to get it right than to rush
1158		Aug 4 2017 8:32AM	Dr. Melinda Thielbar	<p>There are multiple computer algorithms designed to create fair maps. This state has a wealth of intelligent, trained mathematicians. http://rangevoting.org/GerryExamples.html</p> <p>Then there is: http://autoredistrict.org/</p> <p>And: http://bdistricting.com/about.html</p> <p>None of these would create perfect maps, but they would give the legislature a start. Please feel free to contact me if you would like details.</p>
1159		Aug 4 2017 8:33AM	Mr. Johnathan Lemay	We demand an independent commission for redrawing the districts. No more tilting elections in favor of one party or another.
1160		Aug 4 2017 8:33AM	Jeremy `Tomlinson	I think using the compact model and computer programs is the only way to make system fair and impartial. These districts with abstract lines do not make a lot of sense.
1161		Aug 4 2017 8:34AM	Janet Chadwick	<p>Allowing the GA to manage the redistricting and expecting them to do it in a fair and impartial manner is like allowing the fox in the henhouse and expecting to get a basket of eggs for breakfast.</p> <p>There should be an impartial, independent commission to manage and create the new districts. This change is crucial, no matter which party is in power. WE THE PEOPLE includes everyone..not just some.</p>
1162		Aug 4 2017 8:34AM	Anne Lane	It is time for both the house and senate to actually represent us. Not extended districts which bypass areas that should be part of our district. Look at the senate district. HOW does that represent us? It doesn't. same with the house districts. Our county is divided in half. It is time for OUR employees to accurately represent us. And work for US not special interests which is what the current districts do.
1163		Aug 4 2017 8:36AM	Mrs. Patricia Uriarte	It should be done independently both republicans and democrats have proven to be untrustworthy to handle the matter. I do not feel that I am being properly represented in my state. Elections should be fair and open to all.
1164		Aug 4 2017 8:36AM	Elizabeth gibides	Maps should be drawn with the use of unbiased computer software using population as the only factor. Let the chips fall where they may. Politicians of any party should not be involved in redistricting that could potentially benefit them. This is a conflict of interest that in this day in time is unnecessary due to the availability of computer technology which can eliminate conflicts when used properly. As constituents we could then see that districts were drawn in an unbiased manner.
1165		Aug 4 2017 8:36AM	Mr. Jake Krug	Redistricting based on racial or political factors should be unconstitutional. Any politician that wants to unfairly influence elections doesn't deserve to be in a position of power. If you can't win an election based on your own views and proven record of service, don't run for office. STOP GERRYMANDERING.
1166		Aug 4 2017 8:38AM	Dr. Tracy Scull	A democracy calls for independent redistricting. I respectfully request an independent panel to redraw our state maps. NC voters deserve to have each of their votes matter - no matter the party.
1167		Aug 4 2017 8:38AM	Robert Sunris	<p>District lines need to be drawn by an independent group looking to find fair representation across all districts. Look at our votes for Presidential, Senate, and Governor positions - it's always close to 50/50 +/-5% of the vote. We are a moderate state, yet our current districts are nowhere near 50/50 representation. Districts should not look like an octopus. I look forward to seeing more competitive state races in the future where we can get moderates from both sides elected that truly want to represent all of NC.</p>
1168		Aug 4 2017 8:38AM	Ms. Carolyn Valentine	<p>NC has to stop the racial gerrymandering and creat non-partisan districts that do not change based on who is in the General Assembly. Why not make each county a separate district? Then the lines do not change after each election. There is no reason that the district lines need to change other than for elections to be "fixed" or influenced. NC needs to get back to being the progressive state it used to be instead of constantly looking back and moving backwards. We are better than this!!</p>

1169		Aug 4 2017 8:39AM	Mr. Michael Davis	<p>Dear legislators,</p> <p>As a fellow citizen, I implore you to draw maps that are politically neutral and instead that create competitive districts for all. Public faith in democracy is eroding and a sense that one's vote never matters is a key part of this. Furthermore, legislators from competitive districts have greater legitimacy with all of the people that they represent. Please do your part to shore up democracy in our state, even if this is not the will of your party.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p>
1170		Aug 4 2017 8:39AM	Mr. Adam Brooks	<p>This should be done independently and in a nonpartisan manner. The public is overwhelmingly in favor of this. Political gerrymandering is a threat to our democracy and our system of checks and balances.</p>
1171		Aug 4 2017 8:39AM	Mrs. Elizabeth McIntyre	<p>Democracy... by the people and for the people. If politicians can draw the lines to skew the view of voters, how are we really a democratic society? districts should be drawn by an independent bi-partisan group. And yes, that means black voters have just as strong a voice as the white voters!</p>
1172		Aug 4 2017 8:39AM	Mr. paul black	<p>Independent, non-partisan redistricting commission is needed. Voters should choose their representatives, not representatives choosing their voters.</p>
1173		Aug 4 2017 8:40AM	Mrs. Connie Edelen	<p>Please have redistricting performed by an independent counsel.</p>
1174		Aug 4 2017 8:40AM	Amanda Houk	<p>Redistricting should be done by a nonpartisan group. If the districts are drawn by one party, it will be an endless cycle of lawsuits and redrawing. All the lawsuits are costing the taxpayers money. Please help ensure fair representation for all North Carolinians.</p>
1175		Aug 4 2017 8:41AM	Ellee Wallace	<p>Please make this a transparent process. Please use scientific research and do not include current representatives addresses.</p>
1176		Aug 4 2017 8:41AM	Mr. Shawn Proffitt	<p>Redistricting should be done by population distribution and with an intent to continually make districts competitive. This benefits both, if not all, parties but benefits the voters the most. We need and demand real choices, creating a healthy and balanced discourse for each election cycle. When any party is allowed to perpetuate itself we the electorate lose. This is unacceptable.</p>
1177		Aug 4 2017 8:41AM	Mrs. Sara Overby	<p>Districting (and in this case, redistricting) needs to be assigned to an independent group that is determinedly a-partisan. Neither party has a good track record on this activity, and both take advantage of their power at the given time, which leads to corruption, which leads to gerrymandering, which leads to expensive court battles, which leads back to redistricting rulings. I prefer tax money and political energy to be spent on public education and infrastructures that affect quality of life and economic development across NC.</p>
1178		Aug 4 2017 8:41AM	Mr. Nathaniel Timm	<p>I believe that it is imperative for an independent party to oversee and manage the new district maps. There is no possible way to have unbiased maps if those creating them have a large stake in the outcome. Please, keep OUR (constituents') best interests in mind.</p>
1179		Aug 4 2017 8:41AM	Mr. Jason Torian	<p>Legislative redistricting should be done by an independent panel, appointed by the governor, or better yet, by the courts. Legislators have no business drawing lines for their own districts. Serving in public office should be about who serves the interests of the citizens best and not about who can manipulate data the best.</p>
1180		Aug 4 2017 8:42AM	Mr. Wayne Busch	<p>The only way we will get fair representation is if districts are drawn by an independent non-partisan body.</p>
1181		Aug 4 2017 8:42AM	Mr. Thomas Kriston	<p>Our state's lawmakers have demonstrated time and time again, on both sides of the aisle, that neither Democrats nor Republicans should be trusted nor tasked with determining the size and shape of North Carolina's voting district. The time has come to show the rest of our country just how impartial and bipartisan our deeply diverse state can be.</p> <p>I call for the establishment of an independent council for the purposes of determining how the voting districts in North Carolina should be drawn, ensuring that the new boundaries be established in order to best serve all North Carolinians, and for complete transparency both during the establishment of said council and while our new voting map is being created.</p> <p>Racism is a blight that our state has been choking on for centuries, and archaic fears still have too many imaginary teeth. Let's work together, with integrity and honor, to finally kill the social monsters</p>
1182		Aug 4 2017 8:42AM	Vanessa White	<p>It is ludicrous that this is even an issue. Draw the lines legally and without gerrymandering. If you can't be elected honestly there is probably a message there. We are watching and noting who does the right thing. November 2018 will be here soon.</p>
1183		Aug 4 2017 8:42AM	Ms. Regina Reid	<p>I believe that redistricting should not be done by either party. Many of our fine universities have created redistricting plans already. In this day and age of "big data" it seems that creating a fair redistricting plan is within easy reach. Thank you.</p>
1184		Aug 4 2017 8:42AM	Mrs. Brianne Ashley	<p>I think it is reprehensible for politicians to redraw districts to give themselves the political advantage. Even as children we are taught that cheating is wrong, but now politicians want to change the rules if they can't win. WRONG!!! Please redraw the districts in a fair and nonpartisan way. The districts should be drawn by an independent council that is nonpartisan and has "no skin" in the game. The voters and constituents deserve nothing less.</p>

1185	Aug 4 2017 8:43AM	Mr. James Zito	Stop the gerrymandering and use an independent commission to draw district lines. It should not be left to one party. It should not be partisan.
1186	Aug 4 2017 8:44AM	Mr. kristopher bang	Redistricting should no be done by or include any analyst which were used for past racially motivated maps. Maps should be designed by impartial parties and not designed to favor either party. If the republicans insist on using previous poor map designers I can guarantee my vote will not be republican.
1187	Aug 4 2017 8:44AM	Mr. Charles Mills	We need independent redistricting not redistricting done by politicians from either party!
1188	Aug 4 2017 8:45AM	Jamie Watkins	Hire an outside professional to redraw the maps. Politicians should not have the ability to construct their own districts. The current districts we have, with their wildly uneven shapes, look as though they were drawn by a hyperactive toddler. Visually they make no sense, and where fairness and equality are concerned, they make even less sense.
1189	Aug 4 2017 8:45AM	Rhonda Zeller	An independent group should draw the map. This legislature is destroying NC's reputation.
1190	Aug 4 2017 8:45AM	Ms. Sandy McFarland	Legislative redistricting should be done by a COMPLETELY un-biased, bipartisan process that bases the maps on pure population with no manipulation by ANY party to control the outcome or entrench themselves into power. NC must STOP this manipulation and deceit. We are a great state and we need to start showing America that our value is in fairness, honesty and embracing the diversity of America.
1191	Aug 4 2017 8:45AM	Mr. Scott Ledbetter	Be fair and do it scientifically! https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2014/06/03/this-computer-programmer-solved-gerrymandering-in-his-spare-time/?utm_term=.fae7c462be53
1192	Aug 4 2017 8:46AM	Rachel Beck	I strongly believe that the district lines should be drawn by an independent, unbiased group. Allowing the republicans' chosen group/person to draw the lines again is foolish and will not result in fairly drawn districts. To quote Albert Einstein, "You cannot solve the problem with the same state of mind that created it". Our very democracy is at stake. This is bigger than any one party. Hire an independent group. Thank you. Rachel Beck.
1193	Aug 4 2017 8:46AM	Mary Miller	It is past time for the NC Legislature to stop playing with citizens voting rights. Representation must include all of North Carolina's citizens. I expect you to act in a fair and unbiased way to correct the wrong you have done to so many of us. Put your egos aside, and behave morally. Redistrict so that the citizens can choose.
1194	Aug 4 2017 8:46AM	Mrs. Margaret Howard	Please hire an independent non partisan council to redistrict the state based on population. This gerrymandering case has been an embarrassment to the people of N.C and deserves to be taken seriously and correctly so as to avoid wasting time on this again.
1195	Aug 4 2017 8:46AM	Mr. David Rubin	All redistricting should be done by an independent, non-partisan commission. It's time we take politics out of voting rights.
1196	Aug 4 2017 8:46AM	Kristin Bedell	Please consider hiring an independent outside party to draw maps that fairly represent our state.
1197	Aug 4 2017 8:46AM	Betsy Williams	Please remove yourselves from this process, turn it over to an independent commission to redraw the districts. It will save us taxpayers in North Carolina the cost of all the litigation we will have to continue doing to make it fair. It will also remove the opportunity to gerrymander from the other side when Democrats are in the majority. Independent redistricting now
1198	Aug 4 2017 8:46AM	Mrs. Sarah Augustine	NC needs to switch to an independent process for drawing voting districts. It is completely inappropriate and undemocratic that the "ruling party" be allowed to draw maps that benefit themselves. Both parties have been guilty but the most recent maps are an outrage. How much money has been wasted with the legal proceedings and redrawing of the districts? Please do what is RIGHT for North Carolina.
1199	Aug 4 2017 8:46AM	Ms. Emily Urbanek	We must have fair districting maps in order for our democracy to work properly, and for all citizens to be equally represented. More legislators need to come from competitive districts where they actually have to campaign and be responsive to their constituency. I would prefer to see independent redistricting, where neither party gets to draw the maps. I also believe there should be a public comment period after the maps are revealed. Let's allow democracy to work, and not respond only to the desires of a few large corporations and well-heeled donors.
1200	Aug 4 2017 8:47AM	Jeni Sigmon	Redistricting should be done by an independent, non-partisan council. Districts should be as uniform as possible with no "surgical" precision that includes areas that clearly do not belong.
1201	Aug 4 2017 8:47AM	Mr. Mafino Sennati	All districting should be done by an impartial, non political panel. The idea that politicians would design their own districts is allowing a fox to guard a hen house.
1202	Aug 4 2017 8:47AM	Ms. Shaye Hagler	Redistricting should be done by independent counsel or by algorithm such as the one designed by Brian Olson. We've lost faith as a state in politicians; help us trust our government officials again by being willing to give up control when necessary. Refusing to do so is a hallmark of corruption.
1203	Aug 4 2017 8:48AM	Mr. Nicholas Sovich	These districts need to be redrawn quickly and fairly. Our state continues to be a punchline as unconstitutional gerrymandering has been detrimental to the democratic process. The cards can no longer be stacked for one party. Fix them. yesterday.....

1204		Aug 4 2017 8:48AM	Windy Arey-Kent	District lines should be drawn by an independent, third-party entity to avoid bias and discrimination on behalf of EITHER party. The people of the state of NC deserve fair and equal opportunities to elect the person they feel is best suited to lead our state. The political games, on behalf of both parties, needs to stop and the legislature needs to restore public confidence in their ability to govern this great state!
1205		Aug 4 2017 8:49AM	Dr. Justin Johnson	Independent districting, full stop. Neither party, no party, can be allowed to draw districts for any purpose other than equal population distribution. NO party should be allowed to draw district lines to favor their own party or interests. NO party should be allowed the excuse of "well, the other side did it last time, so it's okay." Restore true representation in this state by removing partisan concerns from the districting process and let an outside, non-political body draw the maps.
1206		Aug 4 2017 8:49AM	Mr. Donald Thiebaut	Please turn all redistricting controls over to an impartial, nonpartisan, third-party. Redistricting should not be unfairly undermining voters' rights.
1207		Aug 4 2017 8:49AM	Mr. james clark	Go from one end of the state to the other and put everyone in districts based solely on population. Change only if underrepresentation based on race is found. Completely remove any look at party affiliation. the country/state is becoming an us vs them. Politicians are pushing for their gain not the county's or state's. We need to be more issue based less party.
1208		Aug 4 2017 8:49AM	Mr. joe rees	please work quickly, carefully & fairly to redistrict nc's congressional districts. thank you. joe rees
1209		Aug 4 2017 8:50AM	Dr. Heidi Bonner	Those who benefit from the maps at election time should not be the ones drawing the maps. It's time for an impartial third party to take over redistricting. Our state is a national joke.
1210		Aug 4 2017 8:50AM	Mr. David Weber	Please make the redistricting as near bi-partisan as possible. I am sick and tired of both sides gerrymandering the districts to their advantage. It is utter hoawash.
1211		Aug 4 2017 8:50AM	Mrs. Melissa Hobbs	Redistribution should be done by computer algorithm. Districts should be prioritized in order by adjacent counties, the line of divisions within counties due to population restrictions should follow along natural barriers like Rivers, and by man made barriers such as highways.
1212		Aug 4 2017 8:50AM	Mrs. Norma Furlong	Please use a non-partisan or bi-partisan committee to complete the redistricting. Voters should pick their representatives, not the other way around. Neither party should try to gain a political advantage with gerrymandering. Instead, democracy works best when candidates compete in the marketplace of ideas for the most votes. Extremism is curbed; we get better legislation that has been vetted on all sides; and, as a state, we stay out of the national news and off late night comedians' radar.
1213		Aug 4 2017 8:51AM	Emily Freeman	The current legislative districts need to be redrawn by a nonpartisan independent commission. If politicians are involved in redistricting, then we will end up in the same horrible situation.
1214		Aug 4 2017 8:51AM	Mrs. Rhonda Phat	I believe in all fairness, redistricting should NOT be handled by politicians. This should be handled by a private organization.
1215		Aug 4 2017 8:51AM	Beth Harvey	Our districting maps are an embassament. It shouldn't be convulted to seem fair. Districting maps need to be drawn by and independent party and should include simple shapes only. Otherwise the maps are schemes and confusion gimicks designed to control and suppress the people.
1216		Aug 4 2017 8:51AM	Ms. Christy Carter	use this...and try to be honest this time https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2014/06/03/this-computer-programmer-solved-gerrymandering-in-his-spare-time/?utm_term=.a2927629b9ab
1217		Aug 4 2017 8:52AM	Ms. Margaret Burns	Our state's lawmakers have demonstrated time and time again, on both sides of the aisle, that neither Democrats nor Republicans should be trusted nor tasked with determining the size and shape of North Carolina's voting districts. The time has come to show the rest of our country just how impartial and bipartisan our deeply diverse state can be. I call for the establishment of an independent council for the purposes of determining how the voting districts in North Carolina should be drawn, ensuring that the new boundaries be established in order to best serve all North Carolinians, and for complete transparency both during the establishment of said council and while our new voting map is being created. Racism is a blight that our state has been choking on for centuries, and archaic fears still have too many imaginary teeth. Let's work together, with integrity and honor, to finally kill the social monsters
1218		Aug 4 2017 8:52AM	Mrs. Lisa Beck	I would like to see an independent group- agreed to by both parties, redraw the map. This isn't rocket science, get this done now in a fair and timelv fashion.
1219		Aug 4 2017 8:53AM	Mr. Kevin Wetter	All new redistricting should be done by a non-partisan committee to ensure North Carolina affords the full benefits of a democratic and truly representative government to its citizens.
1220		Aug 4 2017 8:53AM	Mr. Gregory Shepherd	Please use shortest splitline districts drawn by algorithm. That will be truly non-partisan, and then neither side can complain about the outcome. It will also restore the electorate's faith in the process.
1221		Aug 4 2017 8:53AM	adam arthur	End partisan districts. Each district should be balanced between political affiliations in order to let the people's true voice be heard.

1222		Aug 4 2017 8:53AM	Ms. Price Story	Redistricting should be done with clear straight lines, not with any attempt to favor Republicans or Democrats. Population of the area, numbers, should be the only factor in determining what a district looks like. Story gerrymandering districts
1223		Aug 4 2017 8:53AM	Ms. Amy Bright	We need an independent commission to redraw the maps. Both parties have shown us they cannot be trusted to draw fair maps. The only solution for the good of our state, and fair elections for we, the people, is an independent commission.
1224		Aug 4 2017 8:53AM	Kay Dowd	Please redraw so that there is a fair and equaltable mix of population. Political affiliation, race, age or sex should not be a deciding factor in these districts. It should be based on just population numbers alone, so that each district has an equal, fair number of people from all sides. In one word, be fair.
1225		Aug 4 2017 8:53AM	Mrs. Tracy Reed	The voting districts should enable voters to choose their representatives, not the other way around. The deck should not be stacked in favor of a particular party like it is now where it's almost impossible for a Democrat to be elected. It's time for an independent, nonpartisan re-drawing of voting districts.
1226		Aug 4 2017 8:54AM	Karen Shuford	This is a job that needs to be done by an independent non-partisan commission, not by legislators! Please get the politics out of the process, and let the voters decide who represents them. Legislators who rig the system to keep either party in power do a disservice to the voters of NC.
1227		Aug 4 2017 8:54AM	Mrs. Sue Boggs	Neither party should be allowed to shape the districts to skew the outcome. Not sure of the best method, but definitely does not need to be controlled in a partisan way. Some type of independent process.
1228		Aug 4 2017 8:55AM	Mrs. Renee Friday	Please draw non-partisan districts -- or have someone who is truly non-partisan do the drawing. Gerrymandering needs to stop, and it needs to stop NOW, and it needs to stop with North Carolina being an example to the rest of the nation that we can all rise above this mess. Let's draw non-partisan districts and give the voters of NC their voices back!
1229		Aug 4 2017 8:55AM	Ms. Nancy Wielunski	Redistricting by computer makes sense to me. See article- https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2014/06/03/this-computer-programmer-solved-gerrymandering-in-his-spare-time/?utm_term=.5b6a34cb33f1
1230		Aug 4 2017 8:55AM	Mr. Ryan Rearick	Both parties need to acknowledge their past failures and get past, once and for all, craven political schemes to maintain power of a party. Draw the districts in truly fair ways and give the regular voting cadence - be it two, four, or six year cycles - a chance to show the true will of the people. We didn't elect you to promote your party. We elected you to promote the best interests of NC residents. Every single one of us. Setup an independent or truly bi-partisan (half and half, not 2-1 like the voting boards the GOP has already slanted with special-session legislation under a lame-duck governor), and use census data to generate fair districts. Here's an example that's been around for three years. Maybe there are ways to make it better. Let some independent folks work together to figure out what those improvements can be. http://bdistricting.com/2010/NC/ https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2014/06/03/this-computer-programmer-solved-gerrymandering-in-his-spare-time/?utm_term=.9089a9d40854 Thank you. Please do the right thing. The current system is an embarrassment, and you shouldn't need a Supreme Court ruling to tell you that. Use your eyes, and think of residents rather than your party's state office.
1231		Aug 4 2017 8:56AM	Dr. Mark Bowler	This should be done via Brian Olson's "optimally compact" methodology. It is the only way for this to be completely impartial and fair. http://bdistricting.com/2010/NC/
1232		Aug 4 2017 8:56AM	Ms. Kathleen Melious	Should be done by zipcodes with a narrow population difference with other districts. For Example, if an single urban zipcode has 1,000,000 population, every other districy should be 900,000 to 1,100,000 by adding multiple adjacent zipcodes.
1233		Aug 4 2017 8:57AM	Ms. Robin Griffin	I feel that the General Assembly should not be involved with the redrawing of district maps for elections. Elected officials have too much to gain by being involved in this process as was seen in the maps that were recently considered to have been gerrymandered. It is clear that impartiality, which should be a hallmark of elected officials who are meant to serve their constituents, is an oft missing trait in many in the General Assembly. North Carolina does not need biased maps and does not need to continue to be in the news regarding crazy political bullying and personal agendas. What North Carolina needs is fair maps producing fair elections where the people actually properly influence and elect those who represent them properly because that is how our state government should work. Please create a separate, unbiased panel to create the new maps. We do not need anymore bias in our elections and we don't need to continue to waste money being in court over lawsuits on decisions made with ill intent. Thank you for taking public comments.

1234		Aug 4 2017 8:57AM	Julia Lloyd	The politicians of this state have proven that they are more concerned with stealing the votes from the people than they are about protecting democracy. NO politician should be in charge of schemes that steal the value of one person one vote from North Carolina citizens. Where is the shame? The well documented theft of the vote from the people demands change. It is time for a non-partial panel to draw these districts
1235		Aug 4 2017 8:57AM	Mr. JESSE NEWSOM	Redistricting is one of the few constitutional mistakes in that there are no checks an balances in place to protect the minority from the majority. I moved here in 2013 from Maryland, where I lived in a Republican county (Carroll) in a Democrat controlled state. The gerrymandering was awful at all levels, state and congressional. Here I live as a Republican in a Democrat controlled county (Mecklenburg) and city (Charlotte) in a Republican controlled state, and I see the same abuses committed wearing the other jersey. As an American and a proud North Carolinian, I would like to see NC lead the way with a structure of independent review or check/balance on the redistricting, without having to resort to the delay, cost, and acrimony of the courts.
1236		Aug 4 2017 8:57AM	Ms. Joanne Dawson	Use an independent non-partisan committee.
1237		Aug 4 2017 8:57AM	Mrs. Heather Smith	A nonpartisan panel made up of individuals that are NOT politicians split evenly between both Republican and Democrat parties should be formed. This gerrymandering is beneath who we are as North Carolinian and it is not only bad for NC in general it is also shining a horrible light on who we are as a state. This should be a panel with the goal of having fair and balanced districts. Power grabs from either side by bending rules in their own favor should become a thing of the past. Currently our elections appear to be without integrity losing part of our voters confidence. It's time to restore integrity to our election process
1238		Aug 4 2017 8:57AM	Mr. Kyle Findlan	Independent, non-partisan commission. Make it happen. https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2014/06/03/this-computer-programmer-solved-gerrymandering-in-his-spare-time/?utm_term=.15edh6316166
1239		Aug 4 2017 8:58AM	Mrs. Leslie Lopez	Please stop trying to figure out a way to sway elections. Redraw the maps to be equal and fair. The current map is a disgrace. It should not look like a tributary map.
1240		Aug 4 2017 8:58AM	Ms. j nietz	My Comment is this: If politicians want to CHOOSE 'whom to govern' go live in another country. This is American, we are trying to hang on to our democracy! We choose our politicians. you do not choose us.
1241		Aug 4 2017 8:58AM	Mrs. Snehapriya De Vito	I would like to see fair redistricting in North Carolina so that everyone's voice is heard equally.
1242		Aug 4 2017 8:59AM	Philip Butler	Please draw districts that are contiguous and not gerrymanderd in any way, even if that means that they would accurately reflect the will of the voters to the disadvantage of the Republican partv.
1243		Aug 4 2017 8:59AM	Ms. Starr Cash	Bi-partisan, independent commission. Appointed not elected but have to be confirmed. Long terms so they don't whip saw after each election. Term limited so they don't stay too long and acquire too many favors and special interest burdens. I'd have them choose the electoral college representatives too if that doesn't get eliminated. This last election they failed in their duty as far as I'm concerned.
1244		Aug 4 2017 8:59AM	Ms. Laura Sell	North Carolina voters deserve to choose our legislators, not the other way around. Please use nonpartisan criteria to draw our new districts: do not consider incumbency, party affiliation, or race (except as required by the Voting Rights Act). Make the districts as compact as possible, keeping counties and precincts intact. In the future, set up a nonpartisan commission to perform redistricting.
1245		Aug 4 2017 9:00AM	Mrs. Kelly Banner	Please draw the districts in a fair way so that all people are represented. Our state is being compared to a dictatorial regime, and it is largely due to the gerrymandering we are trying to resolve now. Please help restore democracy with fair redistricting.
1246		Aug 4 2017 9:00AM	Mrs. Patricia Ulven	Common sense is paramount. Neither party be it Republicans or Democrats have any business drawing these maps. An independent non partisan firm should be utilized to create impartial districts. Seems so simple to me.
1247		Aug 4 2017 9:01AM	Mr. Doug Pawlak	Time to do the right thing and stop gerrymandering. You represent the people, not a political party.
1248		Aug 4 2017 9:01AM	Dr. Mohamed Noor	I am STRONGLY in favor of INDEPENDENT commission redistricting in North Carolina. The Democrats gerrymandered the state to hell, and the Republicans have exacted their revenge by doing the same more recently. Democracy was thrown to the wind by both parties. It's time to finally do it right, and I hope the Republicans who control the legislature will be the honorable ones who make this finally happen. There are now precise mathematical ways of assessing how districting should be done such that it actually reflects the constituency-- see: https://services.math.duke.edu/projects/gerrymandering/ Please do not continue the partisan madness. When you win by cheating, you actually lost.

1249		Aug 4 2017 9:01AM	Ms. Megan Noor	Independent redistricting is the only way to ensure fair districts and accurate representation in the General Assembly. Both political parties have proven incapable of drawing fair, unbiased districts when given the opportunity, so it is time for an independent body to draw the district lines for GA representation. Duke University has done mathematical research on potential ways of drawing valid district lines, as one can see here: https://services.math.duke.edu/projects/gerrymandering/ Please take constituent feedback into account while the new districts are drawn. Disenfranchising voters because the group in power largely disagrees with them is hardly a fair method of governing. It's time to let voters exercise the full power of their votes, and to give them the opportunity to elect leaders who truly represent them and their interests. Thank
1250		Aug 4 2017 9:02AM	Mrs. Anna Dhole	Please use a non-partisan method of redistricting. It is not right that our political process should be decided by any party. Politicians should not be able to choose their own constituents. Do not think only of retaining power - think of the bigger picture that is our democracy and how it is hurt by gerrymandering.
1251		Aug 4 2017 9:02AM	Mrs. Brittany Hancock	Lines should not be drawn to affect outcomes of elections. They should never be drawn according to race. Stop making NC seem like a state full of backwoods racists and bigots! The whole country is watching this. We lost enough revenue from HB2.
1252		Aug 4 2017 9:02AM	Dr. Kelsey Hample	Redistricting should NOT be a device in politician's toolkit. It allows our representatives to trade our expected votes across imaginary lines in order to decrease the strength of some voices while magnifying that of others. Redistricting should be contracted out to a non-partisan group that has expertise in the matter. Now, tomorrow, and ever after. Let NC join the states of Arizona, California, Idaho, and Washington as an example to the rest of the nation. No more pendulum swings. No more need for regular voters to have to look up a new polling place. No more politicians trading our votes for their elections.
1253		Aug 4 2017 9:02AM	Dr. Lynn Adams	If you ever want to have any semblance of credibility, you'll draw lines that reflect non paritsan population concentration. It's not rocket science.
1254		Aug 4 2017 9:03AM	Mrs. Jill Miller	Now is NC's chance to redraw the maps with NO gerrymandering at all, either racial or political. It is in the state's best interest to have a third party redraw the maps. I would also love to see a law proposed that disallows gerrymandering from here going forward. I would hate to see the maps continually change based on whichever party controls the government. Do the right thing!
1255		Aug 4 2017 9:03AM	Lauren Dillard	The current system is egregiously biased and does not allow for a true representation of the residents. Our local government will better serve all of its people's with more equitable districts.
1256		Aug 4 2017 9:04AM	Mr. Jonathan Beeker	I'm writing to urge an independent consultancy to draw purely geographical lines. It is dangerous to give either major party the ability to gerrymander districts so ruthlessly that they are no longer at the mercy of the voters. It is our money that they play around with, and the voters in the state's financial, education, and population centers have had our voices squelched too long. The embarrassment that this state has become has been to achieve what? Tax breaks for people who don't need them. If NC doesn't do better, we will be left behind and the New South will mean Georgia and Virginia.
1257		Aug 4 2017 9:04AM	Mrs. Kirstin Cassell	Redistricting should be done by an independent non-partisan body. Systemic racism is alive and well in our state and we are long overdue in fixing the ways in which our districting has disenfranchised American citizens. If we truly value democracy, we need to create a system in which all of NC's citizens are valued.
1258		Aug 4 2017 9:04AM	Mr. Phillip Wogatzke	I think gerrymandering has gone on long enough in our state. Take this as an opportunity to end it once and for all. Use nonpartisan redistricting to create a fair opportunity for either party to win allowing our public servant focus on the people instead of the party they serve. Use software that can create these districts so we can have more democracy in NC. Thank you for your time.
1259		Aug 4 2017 9:04AM	Mr. John Turpin	An independent, non-partisan group should be in charge of redistricting with the intent of providing fair representation for all citizens of the state of North Carolina based on approximate percentage of democrats and republicans.
1260		Aug 4 2017 9:04AM	Pegi Pike	The redistricting that has been done to ensure incumbent party wins is corrupt. It is time to end this illegal obscurity. The new lines must be nonpartisan and drawn to reflect real districts of people who live in the same area, not the nonsense we see now. Stop screwing with our lives and our votes! Try honor and honesty, come to an AGREEMENT between both parties (can you do that?) and have a third, nonpartisan, no agenda group draw up the new lines based on population within contiguous boundaries. Please bring some honor back into to our state politics and don't try to limit how citizens rights
1261		Aug 4 2017 9:05AM	Margaret Hoke	I don't believe gerrymandering will stop on either side of the aisle until either the committee is evenly split R/D or it is drawn by a non-partisan committee and utilizes unbiased tools such as computer generated algorithms. Stop the madness! We The People deserve to be fairly represented.
1262		Aug 4 2017 9:06AM	Joseph Womble	PLEASE go past the partisanship Democrats and Republicans have used for DECADES and create a truly fair process for independent redistricting. Be the bigger "person" and solve this issue in a way that people of ALL parties overwhelmingly support (aka independent redistricting).

1263		Aug 4 2017 9:07AM	Dr. Laura Sinai	Redistricting should be done by a non-partisan group only. Ideally a non-partisan created computer program should draw fair districts. Redistricting for one group to stay in power is an horrifically undemocratic. repulsively power hungry behavior.
1264		Aug 4 2017 9:07AM	Ms. Catherine Hart	Our reredistricting plan should be developed by a nonpartisan group that takes into consideration the demographics of a district. Our districts should reflect the people who live there and not created just so a single person can be elected.
1265		Aug 4 2017 9:07AM	Mrs. Jennifer Fontaine	Maps must be redrawn by an independent, or computer assisted program to be both Political Party and Racially blind!!
1266		Aug 4 2017 9:07AM	Doug Tabb	The only redistricting decisions that would be good for the people of the state (and the only ones that should be acceptable to you, the men and women who represent the people of the state) are ones which create truly unbiased districts. The weight of knowing what is unbiased doesn't have to fall entirely on your shoulders though. There are equations, algorithms, and programs designed specifically to produce unbiased districts. I encourage you to utilize methods such as these: http://rangevoting.org/GerryExamples.html http://autoredistrict.org/ http://bdistricting.com/about.html
1267		Aug 4 2017 9:07AM	Jamila Simpson	An independent 3rd party should be in class charge of redistricting efforts. One that uses scientific methods that does not take social categories into consideration. An entity that has no political stake in the outcome.
1268		Aug 4 2017 9:07AM	Kelly Martinez	This should be done via Brian Olson's "optimally compact" methodology. http://bdistricting.com/2010/NC/
1269		Aug 4 2017 9:07AM	Ms. Mallory Roman	We North Carolinians would love to see an independent third party draw the new maps. That will allow all voters to regain confidence in the NCGA.
1270		Aug 4 2017 9:07AM	Mr. Andy Andrews	Stop gerrymandering. Make voting districts fair.
1271		Aug 4 2017 9:08AM	Ms. Keeley L'Esperance	All redistricting should be done independently, not by political parties.
1272		Aug 4 2017 9:09AM	Nadine Bennett	I work with GIS and have actually done local government district maps (for Councils). I have done these strictly by population, while trying to keep neighborhoods intact if possible. PLEASE do not create these districts to gain political advantage. I would say the same to either party. We have a pretty balanced state in terms of people and politics - but that's not what our legislature reflects. I believe balance (and a true reflection of the demographics of the state) is the better way to go.
1273		Aug 4 2017 9:09AM	Mrs. Kathleen Davis	Politicians, no matter their party, should not be the ones making the electoral maps for themselves. Period. Please put together a NONPARTISAN, independent redistrcting committee! Emphasis should be on compactness of geographical area with no regard to political party and only with regard to race for the purpose of ensuring minorities are not disenfranchised. Democracy cannot function and the people do not have their interests represented when super majorities in both houses prevent the minority party from having a voice.
1274		Aug 4 2017 9:09AM	Mrs. Rebecca Dinsdale	Please, please consider your motives when planning new districts. Remember that you will not always be the party in power and that your actions may have some very unintended consequences in the future. You have every right to vote your conscience, but you do not have the right to use your position of power to take away that same right from others.
1275		Aug 4 2017 9:09AM	Mrs. Susan Purr	Stop the gerrymandering! I suggest an independent council for redrawing district maps. The people should select their politicians, not the other way around. If you cannot select an independent council, then have a computer do it. Keep party affiliation out of this.
1276		Aug 4 2017 9:09AM	Mrs. Gail Cole	I want our redistricting done by a completely bipartisan group. It should require that the vote reflects the population of the state regardless of the majority party.
1277		Aug 4 2017 9:10AM	Ms. Elizabeth Traylor	We, the people of this great state, deserve districts drawn by an impartial third party. Gerrymandering is bad for everyone.
1278		Aug 4 2017 9:10AM	Nathaniel Isaacson	Gerrymandered districts are undemocratic and not productive. Democracy thrives on allowing more voices to be heard and allowing all eligible citizens to vote.
1279		Aug 4 2017 9:10AM	Ms. Sara Cathey	It should be done regionally with no regard for party alignment. Buncombe (all of it) and Transylvania should be together like they were pre-NCTPGOP. The GOP has ruined our state...we must have the tools to move forward against racism and sexism.... We need people with enough foresight to know we need to take care of the environment. Sara Cathey
1280		Aug 4 2017 9:11AM	Mrs. Joyce Shields	I deplore the practice of redistricting for the purpose of controlling the outcome of elections for control of our state. I am a registered Republican. I did not like it when the Democrats did it and I do not like it now that the Republicans are doing it. As we have, a two party system, we should have two candidates for each position from which to choose in the election. Power grabbing by drawing the maps for districts to the benefit of one or the other party does not encourage, but does in fact, discourage eligible candidates from entering the race. This is cowardly at best and self-serving at the worst. I do not believe either party, nor the NCGA should have the 'job' of drawing the maps. I believe they should be out sourced to an outside, non-partisan entity.
1281		Aug 4 2017 9:11AM	Ms. Rachel Fellman	I am in favor of non-partisan redistricting.

1282		Aug 4 2017 9:11AM	Ms. Rebecca Zerkin	Thank you for this opportunity to comment on redistricting. Our current maps have cost our state millions of dollars in legal fees and have cost our citizens a fair and equal vote. They decrease competition among candidates, and they have brought shame to our state. I request that you draw maps without regard to party or race, that they are contiguous and compact, and that communities are kept together. Voters should choose their elected representatives, not the other way around.
1283		Aug 4 2017 9:12AM	Mr. Mark Sumner	Please, try to keep communities together. Make it so as many families as possible can live, work and go to school in one district. You already have the data to make this a reality. Focus on doing what is right for the people, not the politicians.
1284		Aug 4 2017 9:12AM	Mr. Wilson Gabbard	The state of political maps in our state is an embarrassmet. Both sides of the aisle should be embarrassed by the reputation our state has gained from this blatant discrimination. A political map drawn only by an independently vetted computer algorithm, like mentioned in the article below, seems to be the only way forward. https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2014/06/03/this-computer-programmer-solved-gerrymandering-in-his-spare-time/?hpid=hp_hp-top-table-main-gerrymandering%3Acomputer-programmer-solved-gerrymandering-in-his-spare-time_2df4df70276d
1285		Aug 4 2017 9:12AM	Mr. Brian Barnhart	Redistricting for partisan advantage or for racial reasons must stop. Please draw fair and reasonable maps so that North Carolina can move forward with truly fair elections and we can stop the endless cycle of litigation and gerrymandering. Thank you.
1286		Aug 4 2017 9:12AM	Dr. Zachary Hendren	Can we please set up an INDEPENDENT redistricting practice? Let's take this out the hands of politicians from either side. Arizona has a model approach with their Independent Redistricting Commission. Why don't we use them as a model for our approach? Show that you can put the people before partisan politics.
1287		Aug 4 2017 9:12AM	Joseph Burkett	Partisan redeistricting subverts the principles of democracy. If you can't get elected through fair process then you shouldn't be in power. Voters should be able to choose their representatives... representatives should not get to choose their voters.
1288		Aug 4 2017 9:13AM	Mr. Blake Faucette	After illegally gerrymandering the districts to diminish the voting power of African Americans, the NC Republican Party has the perception of being a party of racist white people. Should you want to change this perception, I would suggest you re-draw the voting districts in a non partisan way that ensures every North Carolinian's vote counts regardless of party affiliation or color of skin.
1289		Aug 4 2017 9:13AM	Christian Shinkle	The electoral maps should be drawn based on primarily geography, secondarily on population. There is no valid reason for some of our districts to have such odd splinters. There is no valid reason for some of our districts to have overlapping dovetail like sections. It's embarrassing and not democratic. Politicians should try to win elections by sound policy, convincing arguments, and ability to govern. Not by sectioning off portions of their constituents.
1290		Aug 4 2017 9:13AM	Mrs. Denise Jordan	Please do not let either party choose the district lines. Bias and preference would be impossible for either party to avoid. We need these lines drawn according to fair, honest, and consistent ruling by a independent party.
1291		Aug 4 2017 9:14AM	Alyssa Ruth	Drawing districts should never be left up to politicians, regardless of which party holds the majority while the redistricting is being done. An independent third party organization should create districts that accurately and fairly represent the people of North Carolina.
1292		Aug 4 2017 9:14AM	William Pellisero	A non-partisan redistricting committee should draw the legislative districts because history shows both sides will cheat when given the chance.
1293		Aug 4 2017 9:15AM	Ms. Amanda Kowski	All districts should be decided by a non-partisan process. It should be fair for both parties!
1294		Aug 4 2017 9:15AM	Mr. George Turner	I think humans should be out of the process. Gerrymandering that gives any party an advantage is wrong. Congressional districts for example, should allow the fraction of representatives from each party to be closely aligned with the fraction of voters who voted for each party.
1295		Aug 4 2017 9:16AM	Alicia Gonzalez	Please create an independent districting committee that can objectively design the district. No more politics in this process.
1296		Aug 4 2017 9:17AM	Mr. John Spano	How is it the party that considers themselves constitutionalists are rigging the system against NC voters? You aren't the party of the constitution, you've become the party of gerrymandering. Please stop embarrassing the great state of NC with your back room deals that negatively affect NC voters. IF you have so much faith in your platform you wouldn't have to gerrymander districts. Let NC citizens pick their representatives fairly!
1297		Aug 4 2017 9:17AM	Ms. Donna Dyer	Please appoint a bipartisan committee to prepare the maps! If you can stand it, give the committee independent power to create the maps that reflect NC. The report from Tom Ross's group of former judges, both R and D, would be a good place to start. Please be transparent! Show the public all the options you considered before you choose one.
1298		Aug 4 2017 9:17AM	Mrs. Melanie Covell	My feeling is that districts should be as much by county lines as possible. If a county has a large population, such as Mecklenburg and Wake counties, then those should counties should get 2 or 3 districts that are equal in size to the smaller counties.

1299		Aug 4 2017 9:17AM	Ms. Jada Deiderich	Allow an independent organization OR bipartisan committee handle redistricting. You are supposed to represent the people. That doesn't happen when you deliberately draw lines to suppress a large number of those people. You should be leaders and heroes to ALL who live in NC. But we all know why many of you have a seat. Not very heroic for sure
1300		Aug 4 2017 9:17AM	Mr. Robert Ladd	If NCGA is interested in creating equal voting districts that accurately represent the population, then there is a very simple solution that any Computer Science or Math major could easily provide. Even a panel of non-elected judicial employees would be better than partisan gerrymandering. If the NCGA is interested in unfairly stacking votes and limiting democracy in this great state, then it should stay the course.
1301		Aug 4 2017 9:17AM	Mrs. Chanda Green	Districts shouldn't be drawn by the party in power. Gerrymandering happens in both parties, but this last example was so egregiously racist that there wasn't even any pretense. it's just part of the list of things since the GOP stole power that have made our state a laughingstock.
1302		Aug 4 2017 9:18AM	Hannah Fennell	PLEASE hire an independent organization to draw the redistricting lines.
1303		Aug 4 2017 9:18AM	Mr. Jeff Schauble	I think that legislators have no business drawing the district lines. It needs to be drawn by an independent party, preferably a computer program to preserve fairness. I don't get to determine if I keep my job, legislators shouldn't either.
1304		Aug 4 2017 9:18AM	Ms. Tara Foss	I find it unconscionable that this state, once so progressive for the South, is now the subject of ridicule because of its racially biased voting districts. When the courts step in and say change this, you have to listen. Republicans getting to redraw the districts is insane, considering they are the ones who drew these abominations in the first place. Please, we need bi-partisan and non-partisan people to handle this important task. This cannot be left to one party only and that one party cannot be allowed to hold up the redrawing for political gains. Thank you for your time
1305		Aug 4 2017 9:18AM	Ms. Kirsten Milliron	A non-partisan, independent effort is vitally important for the restoration of fair elections and elective rights in the state of North Carolina. For too long, party lines have dictated the districting in ways which undermine the votes of thousands. We must take the power of drawing district lines out of the hands of politicians who stand to gain from them
1306		Aug 4 2017 9:18AM	Mrs. Laura Deoras	Please follow the proper guidelines with no gerrymandering and no crazy shaped districts. Follow the lead of other states that do it properly.
1307		Aug 4 2017 9:18AM	Mr. Randy Earl	We need redistricting based on geographic proximity, not party affiliation. Gerrymandering fosters legislative deadlock since it ensures there is no effective competition - we need legislators to be forced to listen to ALL the people, not just THEIR people. We are supposed to have govt of the PEOPLE, by the PEOPLE, not by the party for the party
1308		Aug 4 2017 9:19AM	Adam Stewart	Make it FAIR to all parties -- representation (state and federal) should reflect the popular vote % (not 50/50 split in vote yields 3-10 split in seats). Dems and GOP have done it for years -- it's time to be mature and END IT and be fair to the people. Let an unbiased computer algorithm own it OR a completely independent, bi-partisan group (even number on all sides) draw the maps. Use county lines when possible, or zip code boundaries at worst in metro areas. Raleigh shouldn't be grouped with Bertie County - that's nonsense. Uptown Charlotte shouldn't be lumped in with Midway near Winston-Salem. Use this as a test: if you are afraid that "this could be done against us someday" then you are not being fair in the present. Give the power back to the people -- this is a purple state. We should have purple representation in all levels of government. Unfair maps -- like we had back in the 90s and like we really have now -- are the biggest affront to democracy that we have. This state is so closely split that we should not have super majorities by any party for probably the rest of our lives. And you know it.
1309		Aug 4 2017 9:19AM	Mrs. Pat Bullard	Make it fair. Make it independent. It is most important that an independent redistricting committee draw the maps so that neither party can gerrymander. District should be compact and contiguous and should not be drawn to coincide with incumbents, should not be drawn with any partisan factors such as registration results of previous elections, voter turnout, and where incumbents live. I certainly hope there is no cause for further court action because of badly drawn districts

1310		Aug 4 2017 9:20AM	Mr. John White	<p>The Republican leadership in the General Assembly continues to put forth highly gerrymandered districts. After all, the Democrats did it, so the GOP deserves to do the same. And then the GOP think tanks blame the courts for not specifying the definition of illegal gerrymandering. It's the courts' fault, they say.</p> <p>There are proposals to set up a nonpartisan panel. These proposals are introduced in the House, but go nowhere, despite have bipartisan support. But wait, you can never eliminate politics from drawing districts, states the opposition. So just continue with the #!@ system we have add for centuries--with more taxpayer dollars for attorneys in court cases and appeals.</p> <p>Like most voters in North Carolina, I do not want gerrymandered districts -- for any party.</p> <p>Perhaps the General Assembly will approve of a new license tag, showing the shape of one of our finest, snake-like districts, "North Carolina--First in Gerrymandering!"</p> <p>Redistricting reform has been endorsed by Senator Thom Tillis, Governor Roy Cooper, former governors Pat McCrory, Jim Hunt and Jim Martin, former mayors Charles Meeker (Raleigh) and Richard Vinroot (Charlotte), the League of Municipalities, mayors of 90 N.C. cities and over half of the members of the N.C. House.</p> <p>It's time for a change!</p>
1311		Aug 4 2017 9:20AM	Mrs. Nancy Howard	<p>Politicians should not be allowed to draw maps to control the outcome of elections and entrench themselves in power. Maps should be drawn by an independent bipartisan council using mathematical algorithms. The districting process and outcomes need to be transparent to the public and clearly unbiased towards any political party. I am very frustrated that I have voted in multiple elections where my vote doesn't count because of gerrymandering.</p>
1312		Aug 4 2017 9:20AM	Mrs. Jessica Braverman	<p>Please have the legislative districts redrawn by an independent, non partisan, redistricting company/group/body. No politicians should have any say or control over this process. The sole mission of the redistricting should be to uphold the ideals of one person one vote, that everyone's vote counts equally as we are all equal citizens of this country and this state. Thank you.</p>
1313		Aug 4 2017 9:21AM	Rebekah Owings	<p>Fair districting protects the integrity of democracy. One person - one vote. Otherwise significant groups of people are left effectively unrepresented. The whole "taxation without representation" matter was a big deal almost 250 years ago, it's still a pretty big deal now. Additionally, the "compressed time line" we're operating under now is only the fault of our own legislators who have sadly defended the current gerrymandering to the embarrassment of our state. Despite the time crunch. I insist that the maps be released for public inspection prior to any vote in the legislature.</p>
1314		Aug 4 2017 9:22AM	Tracy Sloop	<p>Legistlators should have NO PART and play no role in drawing districts this process should be conducted independently of the general assembly.</p>
1315		Aug 4 2017 9:23AM	Mr. George Lambe	<p>When you choose your voters you bypass the democratic process, the basic foundation of what this country is built on. District boundaries should be drawn in a non-partisan way.</p>
1316		Aug 4 2017 9:23AM	Ms. Rosetta Nocher	<p>I just think it's crazy that people we elect a politician to represent them but the person places party loyalty or their own pockets above the needs of thier constituents. And allowing unfair redrawing of districts makes it impossible to replace them with a more honest candidate. Please consider this when redrawing the lines and come up with a map that represents the majority of people and not just your party.</p>
1317		Aug 4 2017 9:23AM	Mrs. Jenn Smith	<p>I hope that an independent group will work on redistricting plans. There needs to be a removal of political bias in districts to preserve the value of voting for our elected officials. To allow political bias in redistricting allows parties to ,"stack the deck " or as I like to call it," to cheat." Our state needs the best elected officials and an independent redistricting plan will help that to happen.</p> <p>We all should be embarrassed that this issue has made it to the courts due to the way the blatantly racist current maps were drawn. Elected officials shouldn't have to cheat to win.</p>
1318		Aug 4 2017 9:23AM	James Zagrobelny	<p>I believe I am fairly represented by the current district boundaries, even though my preferred candidate did not win in 2016 (HD 49). The recent districts have resulted in an engaged voter base who can easily understand who represents them. Contrast this with prior to 2010 redistricting when the NC 12 district (to cite one example) made a laughingstock of North Carolina in the national view.</p> <p>Any new districts should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Keep district within a county (as prescribed by law) - Cities and towns kept as whole as possible - Respect the role of the General Assembly, who under the Federal and State Constitutions and the laws of the State of North Carolina are responsible for redistricting. - Race should not be a factor in the drawing of legislative districts.

1319		Aug 4 2017 9:24AM	Mr. Roger Morris	I want districts drawn so as not to attempt to minimize ANY person's vote! I don't want districts drawn with the goal of promoting either party, I want them drawn solely with fairness and equity in mind! It would be best to have an independent body (i.e. the recent independent judiciary committee) draw the maps. Stop playing partisan politics with people's constitutional right to vote!!!!
1320		Aug 4 2017 9:25AM	Ms. Candice Langston	I am against politicians drawing maps to control the outcome of elections and entrench themselves in power. I am a native North Carolinian and I expect my representatives to draw fair districts so elections are fair and ordered so that elections are fair for myself and future generations.
1321		Aug 4 2017 9:25AM	Dr. Derek Stanovsky	DisRICTs should be drawn by a non-partisan commission. The legislature should not be involved in the process at all.
1322		Aug 4 2017 9:26AM	Ms. Emily Forbes	I feel that it is unethical to allow politicians to draw the legislative redistricting maps. A non-partisan body should draw the maps so that whatever political party is in power is not tempted to draw borders that work in their favor and help entrench power to their party for decades to come. This is pretty common sense - map boundaries drawn by a non-partisan body are the only fair way to make our future map. Thank you -Emily Forbes
1323		Aug 4 2017 9:26AM	Ms. Jeanne Robinson	The US Supreme Court found that NC's legislative districting maps were racially flawed. The Assembly needs to address this important issue. The Assembly needs to take their job seriously, set aside petty politics, and remedy the unconstitutional maps.
1324		Aug 4 2017 9:27AM	Mrs. Willa McNeill	Redistricting should be done by non politicians! It should be done in the most fair way possible to give us all representation. It should be done with impartiality and in a way that will stand until population shifts. It should be fair to Republicans and Democrats I suppose but mostly fair to citizens--rich, poor, black, white, educated or not. North Carolina used to stand tall in this country but has fallen way behind in too many areas. Here is an opportunity to lead with integrity.
1325		Aug 4 2017 9:27AM	Summer La Rue	How about we start being concerned about the welfare of the state, and ALL of its citizens, and a bit less on whether or not you're allowed to rule in a fascist manner. This is suppose to be a democracy, NOT a dictatorship - and that is EXACTLY what you've created for years. This is about citizen voices, not YOU! Be fair for a change.
1326		Aug 4 2017 9:27AM	Mrs. MaryBeth Duprey	I do not believe that politicians should be drawing district maps. I believe that an independent 3rd party should re-draw our maps in a way that makes sense. Constituents should be the ones picking their representatives, representatives shouldn't get to use voting data to nick their voters.
1327		Aug 4 2017 9:28AM	Ms. Harlene Gogan	Redistricting needs to be independent to partisanship! Otherwise you are stacking the deck for your own profit. Insider trading is illegal. Well redistricting based on information about party is akin to insider trading. This should be illegal. The outcome is feathering your own nest, profiting on the changes you have made. Not to mention the race factor, which is illegal. I am appalled that you have dragged your feet even after a court order. You must redraw the district maps in a non-partisan way. This is for the good of our state and our democracy. Just do it!
1328		Aug 4 2017 9:28AM	Anita Blackwell	Districts should be drawn using an independent non-partisan committee. It's true, both parties have used their tenure as majority power to retain and strengthen that power to varying degrees. Until recent years, the General Assembly has generally kept NC on a progressive track with a reasonable give and take between the two parties. Independent redistricting can provide a better balance of power and ideas. It will create representation that is a true reflection of our state. I would also favor keeping counties intact within voting districts.
1329		Aug 4 2017 9:28AM	Ms. Jodi Bulmer	STOP THE GERRYMANDERING. Either get independent redistricting maps created or do this work with BOTH PARTIES DRAWING THE MAPS. You'd be better off getting school children to draw your maps!!! This state has oot to aet it's act toaether.
1330		Aug 4 2017 9:29AM	Sheryl Reto	This should be done on a non partisan basis. The best way to assure fair districts and a fair and free election is to have an independent group draw the lines. Neither party should be trusted to draw fair boundaries and democracy benefits when legislators have accountability to their constituents.
1331		Aug 4 2017 9:29AM	Dr. Sangeeta Swamy	Redistricting should be done in a practical manner that serves the people, not politicians and parties. That should go without saying! It should be based on the needs of the people, to have an ethnically and economically diverse district so that groups are not isolated and can benefit from each other. Districts should also make geographic sense and not be drawn with skinny portions included in order to exclude less privileged groups. Thank you!
1332		Aug 4 2017 9:30AM	Ms. Linda Clayton .	I am Against redistricting. It needs to stay the same

1333		Aug 4 2017 9:30AM	Nora Haenn	<p>Dear Representatives,</p> <p>I write to ask that the pending redistricting follow the guidelines listed below. I am tired of spending state funds to defend districts that are so obviously illegal. We have so many needs in our state, spending money on a preventable problem seems unreasonable. Please, let's put the money to better use and have fair districts which produce a legislature reflective of the electorate as a whole. I know that is a scary proposition for Republicans, but we all benefit by living in a peaceful state.</p> <p>Regards, Nora Haenn</p> <p>a. Districts should be “compact and contiguous” meaning that there are no long tentacles that stretch out and barely touch the rest of the district.</p> <p>b. Districts should follow state and federal laws and respect the 14th Amendenment of the U.S. Constitution.</p> <p>c. The most important: districts should not consider factors such as the party affiliation of voters, where the incumbent lives, the results</p>
1334		Aug 4 2017 9:30AM	Dr. James Gilmore	<p>In 1863, a great Republican and a great American stood on a battlefield at Gettysburg and expressed the hope of all true Americans: that "government of the people, by the people, and for the people shall not perish from the earth." "</p> <p>If North Carolina's Republican legislators choose their own voters by gerrymandering, rather than allowing the people to choose their legislators fairly, they will be declaring war, yet again, upon this most basic and essential of American values, and plunging yet another knife into the back of one of their party's most beloved historical figures.</p> <p>I join with the majority of the people of North Carolina in demanding that the legislature remove itself entirely from the redistricting process and hand it over to a panel of respected individuals, evenly split between both parties, who do not have a vested interest in keeping their legislative seats and who can be judged to fairly apportion North Carolina's legislative maps.</p>
1335		Aug 4 2017 9:30AM	Heather Manning	Maps should not be drawn by politicians. I'm disgusted by the blatant gerrymandering by BOTH parties. My representatives should represent ME and not their own interests.
1336		Aug 4 2017 9:30AM	Ms. Amy Cox	We need a legislature that truly represents the people of North Carolina. End partisan gerrymandering and uphold true American values.
1337		Aug 4 2017 9:30AM	Dr. Jeanne Van Divender	Districts should be drawn as geographically symmetrical as possible. Please - no more snakes, octopuses, outlying parcels. Draw these districts so that ALL citizens of NC are treated fairly. It is time for the NCGA to demonstrate that they view all residents of NC equally and eliminate racial and political gerrymandering in the drawing of districts. Since the courts have consistently ruled "one person, one vote", draw those districts with that mandate. Several nonpartisan groups have drafted maps that clearly demonstrate that districts can be drawn that address that mandate easily. Look to those for guidance - or better yet - use them. Make us proud of our legislature and draw fair and reasonable districts for ALL North Carolina residents.
1338		Aug 4 2017 9:30AM	Ryan McShane	Redistricting should be conducted by an independent, non-partisan body free of agenda. I simply do not trust the legislature to remove bias from the equation. As it stands I feel inadequately represented at the state level, and partisan involvement in redistricting will change nothing.
1339		Aug 4 2017 9:31AM	Ms. Melissa Mohlere	<p>Please create an unbiased, independent commission to create the new maps.</p> <p>Thank you. Melissa Mohlere</p>
1340		Aug 4 2017 9:31AM	Mr. Kendall King	Remove ALL gerrymandering. Start representing the people of your community with integrity, honesty and transparency.
1341		Aug 4 2017 9:31AM	Mr. Nicholas Reigle	The redistricting should be fair, bipartisan, and leave us with competitive districts. When politicians get to pick their constituents through bizarre district lines, it creates a more extreme, less functional body of representatives. We also definitely need to be sure to use someone else to draw the maps than we did last time. Let's not waste any more money on court battles over illegal districts!
1342		Aug 4 2017 9:32AM	Mrs. Emily Miceli	The lines should be drawn to fairly represent the population and not supress the voice of minorities.
1343		Aug 4 2017 9:32AM	Melanie Greenway	Please redistrict so that voters are electing someone to represent their local interest. Redistrict so it never goes back to court. I know that you know how to do this fairly. I wish that I trusted you more to do the right thina.
1344		Aug 4 2017 9:32AM	Ms. Sabrina Catlin	Leave the politicians out of it. A disinterested third party should be engaged to set up balanced districts. Having a Republican or Democrat majority in the districts is unfair to the voters. Unaffiateds like me will vote as we see fit and will make the difference for each district
1345		Aug 4 2017 9:32AM	Mr. Stephen Wells	I would like to see a combination of objective measures to be evaluated to ensure the equity of redistricting efforts. I'd like to see measures of geographic compactness and measures of vote wastage evaluated to ensure that the redistricting process results in fair elections that represent the will of the citizens of our state. I do not want districts drawn for partisan advantage

1346		Aug 4 2017 9:33AM	Ben Frick	Redistricting should be performed by independent 3rd party to ensure that political adjustments are not included. Lines should be based on relevant factors and not party affiliation
1347		Aug 4 2017 9:33AM	Mr. Edward Riddle	Our state has shown repeatedly that both party's gerrymander districts to maintain political power. As such, redistricting should be done by a non-partisan, independent council to ensure the will of the people is carried out and fairly and evenly represented. Race and party affiliation have no place in determining districts and any party that creates districts to maintain power is putting party over country, is UnAmerican and is not supporting the constitution of the United States.
1348		Aug 4 2017 9:33AM	Teela Depena	Please stop acting against the spirit of democracy. If you truly believe in American ideals, you will let the voice of the people be heard through the ballot box, and stop manipulating districts for certain outcomes.
1349		Aug 4 2017 9:34AM	Mrs. Elizabeth Harvey	Thank you for your time The General Assembly needs to utilize an independent agency or committee composed of bipartisan members who are not members of the GA to create legislative maps that are more balanced and fair. Both parties have engaged in gerrymandering in the past, this needs to stop.
1350		Aug 4 2017 9:35AM	Ms. Susan Mayer	North Carolina needs an independent commission to oversee redistricting. It's not right for either party to gerrymander districts in their favor.
1351		Aug 4 2017 9:36AM	Mrs. Katie Lynch	Politicians should not be allowed to draw these districts. An independent group should draw the districts. Allowing politicians to draw these maps let's them skew the districts in their favor not allowing the true voices of the people be heard.
1352		Aug 4 2017 9:36AM	Lanfon Baucom	Hello, I would greatly appreciate it if the focus of this redistributing process would be to ensure that the new House and Senate districts were as compact as possible. I believe this will result in districts that are ultimately more competitive, which is good for everyone involved. I appreciate your consideration of my comments and look forward to improving the political system in our great state! Best, Landon Baucom
1353		Aug 4 2017 9:36AM	Mr. Jacob Baldrige	Our democracy works best when there is a true contest of ideas between opposing sides. This takes competitive districts. I support an independent redistricting commission and strict term limits for legislators and senators. Short of that, districts should be drawn to be as evenly split and competitive as possible. Why? Because this way the legislature can reflect the true wishes of the people in a district, not the wishes of wealthy donors and a single party's base.
1354		Aug 4 2017 9:36AM	Ms. Demarie Anderson	I urge you to allow an independent commission to draw the new maps. For twenty years I have lived in one of the worst gerrymandered district and have never been represented by the person for whom I voted, because this district was drawn to protect Virginia Foxx. We need to have districts that represent the truly diverse population and the diverse needs of our state
1355		Aug 4 2017 9:37AM	Mr. Wesley Tise	I believe that neither the house nor senate should even have the power to create districts. It has been demonstrated both here in NC as well as other states that neither party has the ethical ability to fairly draw these districts. That fact aside, the legislature has been given ample time to redistrict and it should be done quickly and fairly. It would be great to just use and independent and non partisan outside group to do it for you.
1356		Aug 4 2017 9:37AM	Mr. Christopher Shain	Redistricting should be done using a mathematical splitline algorithm generated by open source software, e.g. http://rangevoting.org/SplitLR.html . This ensures population-based, competitive districts with a guarantee of zero political or racial gerrymandering.
1357		Aug 4 2017 9:37AM	Mrs. Peg Kaczmariski	It is important we have fair elections and no gerrymandering. I could not believe what was Dionne whenI lived in Wake County and it in similar in Mecklenburg.
1358		Aug 4 2017 9:37AM	Chad Miller	Need an independent panel that follows census data. Our lifelong corrupt politicians need to keep their hands off drawing lines.
1359		Aug 4 2017 9:38AM	Ms. Leslie Clutz	Please stop playing games with redistricting in an effort to control the outcome of the vote. Have confidence in your message and abilities...to draw districts in a way that benefits a certain party or candidate shows weakness,lack of confidence and desperation for power and control. Let the constituents decide who is the best man/woman for the job
1360		Aug 4 2017 9:38AM	Mrs. Rebecca Hayes	As a lifetime resident of North Carolina, I have seen how this works when the General Assembly allows politicians to draw the districts. This is inherently a biased approach that results in self-serving districts for whichever party holds the majority at the time. The GA should hire a nonpartisan third party to determine the districts and divide them in a way that ensures all voters are represented. I think it would be a good idea to regulate this by statute so that this problem does not repeat in the future
1361		Aug 4 2017 9:38AM	Derek Green	Can county lines not be used in some capacity?

1362		Aug 4 2017 9:38AM	Ms. Janet Hancock	We want fair nonpartisan districts drawn. We cannot have our vote count when the lines gerrymandered. Please let districts be drawn without regard to political party. Thank you.
1363		Aug 4 2017 9:39AM	Mr. Chris Swanson	Districts should be drawn according to population and location. No demographic information such as race, political preference, gender, etc should be used to determine the districts. Preferably they would be drawn by an entity that has no vested interest in the outcome of an election, such as independent commission or computer. This is the only true way to reflect the will of the voters, and until these changes are made our state will continue to be exploited by whichever party holds a majority in the GA.
1364		Aug 4 2017 9:39AM	Mr. Donald Sinclair	Just have a third non political party do it. It will break the trend of each party saying "Well, they did it to us when they were in power." This really shouldn't be that difficult. Remember, although we all have different views, we all want what's best for this state. Get it done!
1365		Aug 4 2017 9:39AM	Mr. Ernesto Frausto	This should be illegal! Neither party should have a tool (such as this) that allows them to control the voting landscape by creating districts based on socioeconomic status, ethnicity, or whatever happens to be the latest excuse. This seems like an improper way for a party to retain majorities. Let the people decide.
1366		Aug 4 2017 9:39AM	Mr. Michael McDonald	I believe that redistricting should be completed by a non-partisan committee of diverse individuals who are not politicians. In fact, I feel that anyone who participates on a non-partisan redistricting committee should be barred from running for office for a period not to exceed six years. It is unconscionable for someone who will benefit from redistricting to participate in the redistricting process.
1367		Aug 4 2017 9:40AM	Rebecca Perry	Plans and maps for redistricting need to be drawn up by an independent organization in order to be as fair and accurate as possible. Representatives who each have vested interests are not the people to do this task. Also, new redistricting maps need to be made and approved as soon as possible.
1368		Aug 4 2017 9:40AM	James Andrew	I want to see as many of the districts to be as competitive as possible. The other less competitive districts should be counterbalanced to each other. I believe we will get much better representation if our representatives truly have to have their ideas compete. Over the past six years we have seen how bad it can be when politicians don't really have to answer to anyone to keep their offices. Elected officials who oppose tenure for educators have essentially created potentially life long offices for themselves. Our state that was once very well respected has become a national punchline time and time again. The problem is one party has gerrymandered itself an unnatural supermajority in both houses and think they have a mandate. We need balance, not too far left or right. If the districts are competitive, and our officials really have to answer to the voters then that could put us back on the right path.
1369		Aug 4 2017 9:41AM	Mr. George Collins	There should be an independent commission that draws the district maps in a fair manner.
1370		Aug 4 2017 9:41AM	Mr. Tom Baker	Independent redistricting is the only way to go. Both parties have been playing games with the map in North Carolina for centuries... it is both parties that have gotten our state to the place that it is today. Take the control away from the GA and form an independent redistricting commission. The map should not be 10 GOP 3 DEM and no tossup races. There should be a balance... and there should be some districts where neither side has a decided advantage. Quit playing games. Gerrymandering is dishonorable. When you take part in rigging the map you are a liar, cheat, and a thief. Quit trying to find new ways to lie your way to power... start working for the people... in order to do this you need to give up control and let an independent commission handle it. The GA has shown its ass for far too long... most recently its been the GOP in control... but before that the Democrats played games. An independent redistricting commission is the only way to go. I served in combat in Iraq and Afghanistan, what you are doing here in America is essentially the same stuff that politicians in those countries do to maintain power.
1371		Aug 4 2017 9:42AM	Mr. Lou Andre	Please keep the districts as geographically compact as possibly. I want to be voting with my neighbors.
1372		Aug 4 2017 9:42AM	Mr. John Sutton	I am strongly in favor of a Non-partisan redistricting commission that uses the efficiency gap developed by Nicholas Stephanopoulos and Eric McGhee as a measuring standard to prevent egregious partisan gerrymandering. https://www.brennancenter.org/sites/default/files/legal-work/How_the_Efficiency_Gap_Standard_Works.pdf
1373		Aug 4 2017 9:42AM	Ryan McGill	This should be done by a nonpartisan third party! Since you are doing it at this time it should be fair and truly represent the area. We should have new districts that adequately make the people who live in those area, these districts should look more box like.
1374		Aug 4 2017 9:42AM	Sarah Catchings	I think that all political redistricting should be handled by an independent, apolitical organization. At a minimum, it should not be handled by those whose very jobs depend on it. Districting should result in a legislature whose members are proportionally representative of the population they serve.

1375		Aug 4 2017 9:42AM	Mrs. Leah Raeihle	When redrawing districts, I would like to see them drawn FAIRLY. In a manner that does not give any party an advantage over another. Neither Republican nor Democratic party should be able to Gerrymander maps to win elections. WE THE PEOPLE should be able to vote in whomever we feel is capable of doing the job the best without working around Gerrymandered districts
1376		Aug 4 2017 9:43AM	Mrs. Valerie Glass	We need an independent council to redraw the lines in a non- partisan way. Allowing this to be a partisan task was a mistake and has devastated our sense of democracy in NC. I have zero confidence that the elected officials in Raleigh are working for the people of NC.
1377		Aug 4 2017 9:43AM	Ms. Frances Rampey	Districts should be 100% neutral and based solely on population.
1378		Aug 4 2017 9:43AM	Sara Dickson	I feel very strongly that we need non partisan redistricting. It's time for voters to choose their elected officials, not the other way around. We need legislative districts that are compact and are representative of the people of North Carolina.
1379		Aug 4 2017 9:44AM	Pam Caviness	Follow natural population totals and geographic boundaries when creating districts. County lines may be considered as well. Voter stats should not matter. Be apolitical.
1380		Aug 4 2017 9:44AM	Allen Frady	I think redistricting is the most important thing you will do all year and I find it hard to believe that you will do anything but continue the partisan charade you've always done democrat or republican. The time has come to let a neutral party draw the maps. Having said that, I expect that the maps will be drawn in the most fair way possible. I hope that is the case. If not, well I'm sure the courts will have a say. Do the right thing and redistrict fairly.
1381		Aug 4 2017 9:44AM	Ms. Jayse Sessi	I would like to see impartial districts bases more on communities and perhaps more along county lines if applicable. Race and party should not be taken into account when drawing district maps.
1382		Aug 4 2017 9:44AM	Jennifer Rafferty	Politicians who use redistricting to further their own party are criminals. The people of NC deserve fair representation, and gerrymandering must end. District lines must be drawn by an impartial 3rd party so that politicians cannot chest the system. Unfortunately NC has become a disgrace in this country, as the actions of our GOP in manipulating district lines and laws to keep themselves in power is inevucable and deplorable
1383		Aug 4 2017 9:45AM	Ms. Suzanne Mounsey	Political (re)districting is a complete nightmare for the people of any area. It doesn't matter if it's the GOP or DEM party doing it, it's abused and makes voting depresssing instead of a positive civil activity. As a mod, I've lived in both "red" and "blue" districts where it felt like my vote didn't matter, because of the system being rigged by whoever was in power at the time. I vote by candidate, not party, and I'd like to think that any good candidate that can fairly represent a district should. I also like to think that my candidate cares about the people and/or interests of an area I live in, vs something miles away where their "real" base is. Please, PLEASE get an independent committee for drawing districts. For the people and better governance of NC
1384		Aug 4 2017 9:45AM	Mr. Brian Hatrick	I'm requesting a bipartisan independent group to redraw the district's without gerrymandering the results. The was one done in Febuary that would make our elections fairer and still gives a noticeable edge to conservatives. I quote "The map would produce six likely Republican districts, four likely Democratic districts and three toss-up districts, compared with 10 likely Republican districts, three likely Democratic districts and no toss-up districts under the congressional map drawn by state lawmakers in February." Please give this democratic solution a chance to prove that the American people know what they want from their leaders.
1385		Aug 4 2017 9:45AM	Ms. Brenda Hemby	I think that all political redistricting should be handled by an independent, apolitical organization. At a minimum, it should not be handled by those whose very jobs depend on it. Districting should result in a legislature whose members are proportionally representative of the population they serve.
1386		Aug 4 2017 9:45AM	Joseph Walker	Redistricting should always and forever be done under the oversight of a non-partisan independent commission. The commission should be required to have three different maps available for public comment and review that used the latest in mapping software to draw the maps in a non-partisan solution.
1387		Aug 4 2017 9:46AM	Ms. Julia Simmons	Districts should be drawn by a political-neutral group and include statisticians and stakeholders (voters). No municipality should be divided into different districts unless the population of the municipality requires that.
1388		Aug 4 2017 9:47AM	Dr. Gary Kirkegaard	The redistricting should be done by an independent source (NOT legislators) and it should have been completed within the timeframes suggested by the courts ! Quit wasting MY tax dollars and get this done ! You are AM illegitimate legislature and this problem you have illegally created needs to be remedied NOW !
1389		Aug 4 2017 9:47AM	Christina Pierce	Use the freeware non-partisan app... https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2014/06/03/this-computer-programmer-solved-gerrymandering-in-his-spare-time/?utm_term=.d141628f4794
1390		Aug 4 2017 9:47AM	Mr. Christopher Luna	The flagrantly racist gerrymandering that the GOP has involved itself in is a direct attack on the principles of American representative government. I expect new districts not to be gerrymandered, whether for racially-based or partisan-based political gain. The Republican Party has burned through almost all of its credibility. Don't gamble with what little you have left. It's clear that neither party can be trusted to draw these districts, but I sincerely doubt you will turn this task over to an independent committee.

1391		Aug 4 2017 9:47AM	Sharon McConnell	Please, please adopt an objective computer algorithm approach to redistricting. The goal should be to achieve a map where districts make geographic sense and residents within the district all live relatively close to each other. Political party, race and similar demographics should be secondary to geographic logic and overall population equivalence. The power plays involved with redistricting and subsequent litigation are a waste of taxpayer dollars.
1392		Aug 4 2017 9:48AM	Mr. mike champion	I live in district 11 where Asheville has been carved out of the district. This allows one party to remain in power and subverts democratic principles. The legislature needs to display a willingness to to allow a fair representation of the voter's will.
1393		Aug 4 2017 9:48AM	Mr. Cody Jones	While I understand that this is a partisan exercise, that both parties have taken advantage of in unfair ways, can you please just create proportional districts and let "we the people" determine in the next election if they are to be Republican or Democrat? Republicans have a chance here to take the high road and show that they can do this without any underhanded tricks that will unfairly advantage them. Perhaps if they can show that they can be adults about the redistricting process, we voters will reward them at the ballot box. Just be fair (and two wrongs don't make a right). Please.
1394		Aug 4 2017 9:48AM	Ms. Joan Jolliff	Help stop gerrymandering. Ensure fair polling sites for all NC citizens.
1395		Aug 4 2017 9:48AM	Ms. Miriam Thompson	I look forward to map and justification for how lines will be redrawn
1396		Aug 4 2017 9:48AM	Mr. Andre Fernandes	Redistricting should occur by an independent council, not by democrats or republicans based on which happens to be in power. This is a clear and regrettable conflict of interest that needs to end. Constituents should elect their representatives and not the other way around! I support an independent commission, or computer algorithm based system of neutrally deciding how to district our state.
1397		Aug 4 2017 9:48AM	Martin Lane	Redistricting should be done by an independent panel to avoid gerrymandering (perceived or real).
1398		Aug 4 2017 9:48AM	Izabela Wojciechowska	The courts have struck down racial gerrymandering. Partisan gerrymandering should also be illegal. Fair maps are key to our democracy, and I hope the NCGA can see that. It's not fair to have the same people draw the maps who drew the illegal maps in the first place. Moreover, please allow public comment AFTER revealing the maps, so that if the public feels the maps continue to be unfair, we can speak out and the maps can be amended. We're the ones affected by redistricting. We're the ones who should have a say.
1399		Aug 4 2017 9:49AM	Mrs. Linda Schrager	North Carolina redistricting should be drawn by an independent group rather than by party. Otherwise it will always be weighed in favor of the party who holds the most seats, which in NC is republican.
1400		Aug 4 2017 9:49AM	Mr. Ian Caterina	I would like there to be a non partisan independent committee responsible for all political redistricting for the State of North Carolina. Political gerrymandering is taking away our right to fair and competitive elections. It is fraudulent and puts too much power into the hands of the party in control of the process. It is tantamount to rigging the elections. Districts should represent neighborhoods in their entirety and should be round or square like in there shapes. No more Borschach test like shapes.
1401		Aug 4 2017 9:51AM	Mrs. Signe Waldbauer	The issue with the current districting is it was drawn up by politicians. Districting is not a partisan issue. This needs to be done by an independent and nonpartisan group. This is the only way for it to be done fairly.
1402		Aug 4 2017 9:52AM	Vera Goudes	I strongly oppose redistricting in any manner that purposefully draws lines to influence elections. Lines should be drawn geographically without consideration of political party, race, income, or other demographics. A friend who is a trial lawyer once said the research and study that goes into picking a jury is a waste of time because you can never truly predict which way people will vote, just throw 12 people in the box and go. To avoid impropriety in politics, I believe the same of drawing districts. Am sure this will never happen, so at least try to make it fair and stop the deliberate, crazy, snaky districts in our state. Good luck! I am an "unaffiliated" voter, by the way, and vote for the person, not the party.
1403		Aug 4 2017 9:52AM	Jennifer Courtney	I have lived in several states and countries and I truly do not understand redrawing districts. Just vote in your county. Yes they will have some that will always be a republican area but redrawing lines to change that is a huge waste of time/money.
1404		Aug 4 2017 9:52AM	Mr. Dan Caugherty	It would be simple to have an independent commission and a panel of independent, vetted experts: 1) approve a software algorithm based on its correctness and adherence to stated requirements, 2) inspect the resulting software source code for its implementation of the product of Step 1, and 3) submit at least three results from such software for consideration by a larger redistricting committee. (This assumes that the algorithm is an approximation technique, and might not produce the exact same results every time.) This may take some time to fully implement, but one way to minimize
1405		Aug 4 2017 9:52AM	Mrs. Marilyn Talbot	Voting needs to be as easy and accessible as possible for all eligible citizens. Districts must be drawn equitably. That's democracy.

1406		Aug 4 2017 9:53AM	Dr. Michael Berntsen	Use a third party group that is fair! Having the court cases concerning districting is a disgrace to this state. Please make the moral and right decision to create districts based on math rather than politics! Our state should never again be in the news for lawsuits concerning imnroner districts.
1407		Aug 4 2017 9:53AM	Pierce Stewart-Thomas	Computer algorithm that ONLY considers: a) Equitable distribution of registered voters (political affiliation is not entered into the program) across every district b) Minimum geographic dispersion (as the crow flies) between district boundaries c) Established boundaries: county lines preferred, zip codes for more dense populations If you are looking at party affiliation, sex or race in your determination, then you are not creating a fair process. Our representation should reflect our votes! It doesn't even come close right now. Our congress should be about 7 Republicans and 6 Democrats. Not 10-3. FIX IT. Be fair.
1408		Aug 4 2017 9:53AM	Dr. Lisa Cloyd	Redistricting should happen by people who are independent and not partisan. There should not be discrimination based upon race, religion, sexual orientation, gender, SES, political party, etc. If 40% of the population of the state tends to vote one way and 60% tends to vote another, the representatives should similarly be distributed. Districts should be compact. Ensure all citizens are represented rather than a few.
1409		Aug 4 2017 9:53AM	D Newman	NC needs to stop acting like a 3rd world dictatorship and put together a bipartisan panel to establish districts that fairly represent our population. You should not have to be ordered by the Supreme Court to do what's right, which it appears the legislature has refused to do. We used to have a world class state. Now we have a legislature of frat bros engaging in self promotion. You have wasted resources passing phony laws to practice discrimination, costing our state BILLIONS in lost revenue and soiling our reputation. NC will continue to grow and become more socially liberal, despite your efforts. You're shooting yourselves in the face. I don't mind adding my name to a ballot. In fact, my state representative has refused to respond to my request to be added to the legislative update. Inexcusable.
1410		Aug 4 2017 9:53AM	Mrs. Cassie Blackwelder	The redistricting should be completed by a bipartisan group to prevent racial and political gerrymandering. For too long the Democrats and Republicans have utilized gerrymandering to stay in power and ignore the will of the people. Their constituents deserve to be heard and the only way that will happen is if the districts are drawn by an unbiased source.
1411		Aug 4 2017 9:54AM	Mr. Ronald Sinclair	Let an independent panel draw legislative districts. Big data has allowed districts to be drawn with precision, causing you politicians to choose our representation, instead of "we the people" (remember us?) choosing our own representation. We're fed up with you.
1412		Aug 4 2017 9:55AM	Mr. Bennett Stillerman	This should be a no-brainer. We live in a (so-called) democratic system. How is it then that we can adjust the lines of districts to systematically limit a person's vote? The gerrymanderers will be remembered in the history books as assaulters of our democratic system. Now's the time to make it right. Ensure proper representation of the people.
1413		Aug 4 2017 9:55AM	Jill Liles	As a native of Raleigh NC - an increasingly rare thing these days - I have watched my home state become torn by gerrymandering enacted by bother sides of the political fight. What was once a beacon of a "new south" Working to move beyond the legacy of racism and backwoods stereotypes has become a joke on the nightly news. No one who has a vested, monetary interest - that is to say a current or future politician - should be allowed to touch the districting process. Allowing politicians to pick their voters invites corruption and disenfranchisement whether it's done by a republican or a democrat. We live in a modern world with powerful data analysis capabilities. There is no reason a computer could not be used to create fair and just maps that consider everyone equally.
1414		Aug 4 2017 9:55AM	Ms. Rachel Campbell	I believe district lines should be drawn based purely on population centers with barriers like county lines, roads and natural geographic elements like rivers. No political or demographic data besides basic population counts.
1415		Aug 4 2017 9:55AM	Mr. walter aakert	Please show some integrity, and draw districts in a way that gives an advantage to *neither* party.
1416		Aug 4 2017 9:56AM	Ms. suzanne piri	The state should hire or utilize technology (a computer algorithm) that will impartially redraw district lines. It is time for fair districts. The citizens of the state want fair representation and that does not happen when districts have been aerrvmandered.
1417		Aug 4 2017 9:57AM	Ms. Alison Spannaus	I believe that the redistricting should be done in a fair and equitable manner for all, NOT for any one political party. With all of the computer renderings out there that show how NC can be redistricted with boundaries that aren't little snakes and alleys all over the place, there is no need for NC districts to be anything but logical. For once we should be leading the country in showing how redistricting SHOULD be done, not how it has been done based on which political party is in power.

1418		Aug 4 2017 9:57AM	Mr. Benjamin Pearce	<p>Please have a non-political, bi-partisan, third party redraw our voting districts. Politicians should not be involved in this process. This is the only way that we will truly have fair voting districts.</p> <p>Thank you for your time,</p> <p>Ben Pearce</p>
1419		Aug 4 2017 9:59AM	Robert Crosby	Will someone please explain to me why it is that we sued for gerrymandering when the
1420		Aug 4 2017 9:59AM	Alice Herring	<p>The purpose for an election is to allow the PEOPLE to select those they feel will best represent their interests in government. Deliberate drawing of district maps by said government to favor one party over another is a betrayal of everything the founders of our country stood for. Make the maps FAIR and UNBIASED and quit destroying our state to line your own selfish, greedy pockets.</p>
1421		Aug 4 2017 9:59AM	Karen Waters	<p>Neither party be it Republicans or Democrats have any business drawing these maps. An independent non partisan group should be utilized to create impartial districts. I am a Democrat but would like districts that truly reflected the people who live in them and not ones drawn to give either party an up on election day. You people need to learn how to compromise and get something done instead of holding our state hostage with these crazy districts and voter laws that try and keep people from voting against you. If you believe in your ideas, sell them for what they are and quit trying to say they are something else. Honesty is still important to North Carolina voters whether the NCGA thinks so or not.</p>
1422		Aug 4 2017 10:00AM	Ms. annamaria papp	<p>Dear Committee,</p> <p>I know both parties can claim that when the other side in power they gerrymandering for their benefit. But we, the constituents are sick of it! NC is an almost 50/50% Republican/Democrat. How come we are overwhelmingly ruled and legislated by the R. party?</p> <p>We the people demand a fair and balanced redistricting where we can feel that the winner of an election was a result of the people's wish, not an awful disadvantage! We want districts that are occupied fairly evenly from both (included Independents) parties!</p> <p>We feel so powerless, regarding this veto proof congress. We believe they don't represent the whole North Carolina, but a small sliver it. And we feel they don't legislate for the benefit of the whole but just for the few.</p> <p>Thank you,</p>
1423		Aug 4 2017 10:00AM	Rachel Harmon	<p>I am a North Carolinian by birth and love this beautiful state. I only hope that our general assembly will put their ego and greed aside to do what is best for ALL citizens of this state. Please allow an independent and unbiased third party to redraw our state's extremely gerrymandered districts and bring justice to our state. Our state's policies are an embarrassment to the integrity of the individuals who make up this great state. it is time for change.</p>
1424		Aug 4 2017 10:00AM	Amanda Smith	<p>Redistricting shouldn't be in the hands of the people poised to benefit from the district lines. That's how we've gotten into thie current mess. People don't have faith in the process. You need a bipartisan commission doing this at least, and ideally the task would go to a wholly independent department or firm using mathematical algorithms to construct new district lines.</p>
1425		Aug 4 2017 10:01AM	Mary Arnold	<p>I want the work of this non-partisan commission to determine where district lines are drawn: https://sanford.duke.edu/articles/nonpartisan-redistricting-panel-reveals-unofficial-nc-congressional-voting-map. North Carolina's election districts -- unconstitutionally gerrymandered and drawn with "surgical precision" with the intention of keeping as many white Republican legislators in power as possible -- are a national disgrace. Adding to North Carolina's shame are the voter ID requirements, bogus voter fraud claims by Republicans, the shutting down of polling places, limiting days for early voting, and other disgraceful partisan tactics NC Republics have used to limit and control elections since provisions of the Voting Rights Act were relaxed. I want the federal and state courts to enforce fair elections in North Carolina.</p>
1426		Aug 4 2017 10:01AM	Mr. Ken McLeod	<p>This and all future redistricting should be prepared by an independent commission. As a voter, I am tired of ANY political party being able to draw themselves into power based on redistricting.</p>
1427		Aug 4 2017 10:01AM	Robert Crosby	<p>Why is it that it was ok for the Democrats to setup gerrymandered districts when they were in power but it is racist when the Republican legisture does it.</p>
1428		Aug 4 2017 10:03AM	Ms. Rasheeda Smith	<p>I would like to see a fairer voting map, in part because I want my vote to be counted equally as every other vote made in the state, and partly because the gerrymandered area I live in confuses me--I'm still not sure who I'm supposed to contact if I have an issue with my renrepresentatives.</p>
1429		Aug 4 2017 10:03AM	Janet Webb	<p>It is unfair for either political party to draw maps based on party or to disenfranchise a group of people. Please consider making the new maps more fair for everyone and not having a crazy map that makes no sense.</p>
1430		Aug 4 2017 10:03AM	Mr. Samuel Austin	<p>Redistricting should be done by a nonpartisan committee with no members of the General Assembly,executive branch,and state employees on the committee.</p>
1431		Aug 4 2017 10:03AM	Ms. Veda Howell	<p>Redistricting should be conducted by a nonpartisan panel based on population with no demographic delimiters other than citizens and not counting minors. Let's get the partisan power plays out of this process!</p>

1432		Aug 4 2017 10:04AM	Ms. Patricia Salomon	I am strongly in favor of non-partisan redistricting. Make voting fair for each party and each voter. No more special advantage to either party. Get back to governing collaboratively. Please.
1433		Aug 4 2017 10:04AM	Mr. Matt McCarthy	Cut from a nicely worded response from JS. ""I deplore the practice of redistricting for the purpose of controlling the outcome of elections for control of our state."..."As we have, a two party system, we should have two candidates for each position from which to choose in the election. Power grabbing by drawing the maps for districts to the benefit of one or the other party does not encourage, but does in fact, discourage eligible candidates from entering the race. This is cowardly at best and self-serving at the worst. I do not believe either party, nor the NCGA should have the 'job' of drawing the maps. I believe they should be out sourced to an outside, non-partisan entity. "
1434		Aug 4 2017 10:05AM	Gretchen Niver	We need to return to a truly democratic election process in our state. We've suffered under the partisan results of gerrymandering by both parties for far too long. New districts should be drawn under the following criteria: a. Districts are “compact and contiguous” meaning that there are no long tentacles that stretch out and barely touch the rest of the district. b. Districts follow state and federal laws. c. The most important: districts are drawn not considering factors such as the party affiliation of voters, where the incumbent lives, the results of previous elections, or other partisan factors.
1435		Aug 4 2017 10:06AM	Mr. Duane Rowland III	Given the divisive history of partisan redistricting, by both political parties, I believe that Redistricting should be done by an Independent Committee of appointed members. Citizens should choose their representatives, and not the other way around. I believe that truly competitive general elections are critical to truly involving the people of North Carolina in their political process. Competitive elections also have the result of forcing our Representatives to truly listen to us, to seek our input, to compromise when necessary for the practical good. There should be no such thing as a "Safe District" in North Carolina. The mere existence of that idea is proof that something is wrong, something is broken in our current system. Only independent redistricting, by a committee made up of statisticians and data scientists, and NOT made up of politicians or elected officials, can draw electoral maps which properly reflect the geography and demographics of the State. Independent Redistricting by a committee, appointed by the Governor to set terms of service, is the best and most effective way of engendering a sense of ownership and inclusion in our State political processes by the citizens of North Carolina. If the General Assembly wants to reflect the will of the People, then Representatives must be at the mercy of the People; they must be responsible to the Citizens of North Carolina, and not "Safe" in their seats of power. All elected state officials should be bound by this process.
1436		Aug 4 2017 10:06AM	Marty Wolfe	The redistricting process should be supervised by a bipartisan Commission. Registrations of each party in each district should be equal in number.
1437		Aug 4 2017 10:06AM	Courtney Scott	I would like to see a non-partisan completely independent redistricting body. One person one vote.
1438		Aug 4 2017 10:06AM	Mr. Nick Rich	A novel idea: how about redistricting in a way that doesn't weaken the African-American vote and favor the Republicans unfairly. Hire an independent commission to draw districts in a way that accepts the changes the 21st century has brought and will continue to bring to our civilization. In other words, serve the people rather than your twisted and hateful agenda. Just a thought.
1439		Aug 4 2017 10:08AM	Mrs. Tracey Principi	Politicians should not be involved with the redistricting maps. The State of NC needs an unbiased approach to redrawing the maps. The maps need to be fair to all people. Quit gerrymandering the maps.
1440		Aug 4 2017 10:08AM	Timothy Goettel	Please just look for ways to have geographically compact districts that look logical, without regard to maximizing political impact. In fact, you could start by having the consultant available to ALL legislators, not just Republicans. You really shouldn't be afraid of the voters - just do what's simple and logical and then see if your ideas win!
1441		Aug 4 2017 10:09AM	Carol Martucci	It is absolutely ludicrous for any politician to be involved with determining voting district boundaries. It should be handled by an independent ndependant neutral body.
1442		Aug 4 2017 10:09AM	Ms. Rebecca Elmo	You have made North Carolina a laughing stock with your gerrymandering and abuse of power. Give us our dignity back and redistrict fairly. Your party's political power comes from the people and if you take away our voice, you're not doing your job correctly. I implore you to give North Carolina it's dignity back and show how political parties can work together to better the lives of it's people and let their voices be heard.
1443		Aug 4 2017 10:09AM	Mr. Gamon Long	Districts should be drawn to accurately map to geographic distribution and to reflect popular vote support in legislative representation. NC's existing gerrymandered districts are shameful.
1444		Aug 4 2017 10:11AM	Mr. Jason Cupp	Congratulations House GOP for winning 62% of the seats despite only winning 53% of the votes. You've clearly shown how good you are at gaming the system, but now is your chance to show your commitment to democracy by installing an independent redistricting committee with an open-process. I'm not holding my breath. I will never vote for a party that is so obviously corrupt at so many levels.

1445		Aug 4 2017 10:11AM	Ms. Misty Landrum	Please know that the highly partisan districts currently in effect just foster animosity between the political segments. Please use neutral elements, such as population count and county lines to draw districts. We, the people of this state, need fair representation.
1446		Aug 4 2017 10:12AM	Mr. Paul Howland	The issues with district lines and gerrymandering have been a major embarrassment for this state and an issue that must be corrected as quickly as possible. I would suggest that we completely remove partisan viewpoints from the process. NC could become a leader in this area if this is done appropriately. I would urge our legislature to look outside the systems of committees and selected groups with representatives from either side of the aisle and more into completely impartial means, such as computer algorithms with simplified approach where only geography and population numbers are used. There is no place for partisanship in this issue. Let our representatives actually be accurate representations of the people of our state.
1447		Aug 4 2017 10:13AM	Mr. Johnne Smith	I have a pending contract on this home that I selected in large part that it was in a Democratic district in Raleigh NC. I would very much like to keep it that way.
1448		Aug 4 2017 10:14AM	Mrs. Shannon Crate	Please use a bipartisan or independent committee to draw the new district lines. I would love for North Carolina to be a leader in transparent politics for the nation.
1449		Aug 4 2017 10:14AM	Ms. Emily Langdon	I urge the General Assembly to utilize an independent party for redistricting the illegally gerrymandered districts. It is the only way to ensure fair and honest districts. You cannot continue to cheat North Carolinians out of representatives who actually work represent them and put their constituents over their party. The latest budget proves that the majority party cares nothing about their constituents; you only care to push North Caroline further backwards!
1450		Aug 4 2017 10:14AM	Ms. Joyce Chapman	Regardless of the party in power, I would like for you all to put into law that from now on all redistricting is done by an independent commission. We have had too much partisan gerrymandering from both Democrats and Republics over the years and the people of NC are sick and tired of the game. I hope you will consider an independent redistricting committee for these current maps. Thank you.
1451		Aug 4 2017 10:14AM	Ms. Shana Miller	I would like to see the state lead the country and use available technology's to redistrict the state. We have the ability to show true bipartisanship and help the people of the state be truly represented. Also by using this tech, it will remove any personal or political bias that could occur and obviously already has. Do what is best for the people of the state not the good of the party, country before party always.
1452		Aug 4 2017 10:15AM	Mr. Matt Morrison	Please take a concerted effort to remove race, religion, political affiliation, gender, and any other bias out of your decision to draw districts lines. Please do your best to apportion districts based on populations and geographical locations. The less squiggly lines and thin strips of districts the better. I am an independent voter, I rely on fact based decision making to reach conclusions on any given discourse. If you believe in your message and your platform, please present it with fact on hand and in mind. If it is the more beneficial and sound decision, you will get my vote. You are the government of a democratic society that proclaims fairness for all, please do your service and govern with fairness for all in your heart. NC over PARTY, REPUBLIC
1453		Aug 4 2017 10:15AM	Mr. Matthew Bolick	Create an independent redistricting commission. "The Democrats did it" and "The Republicans are doing it" is not a solution to a problem. There is a computer algorithm to create districts based on population density that is more fair and accurate than human drawn maps. https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2016/01/13/this-is-actually-what-america-would-look-like-without-gerrymandering/?utm_term=.9cc0cbd9eccd

1454		Aug 4 2017 10:16AM	Dr. Wesley Harris	I think we should have a full and open debate about what kind of districts we really want to draw in our state. The simple phrase end Gerrymandering does nothing to solve the fundamental issue that there will always be a high degree of subjectivity in our district drawing. The greatest threat to everyday citizens of this state is that our elected officials are not truly politically liable for their actions, as long as the districts we draw are heavily one party or the other we will run the risk of the 10% of the population (the most extreme) having their voices heard in who is leading North Carolina. We need to create districts that are as competitive as possible, in order to create a legislative body that really is in tune to the entire population. Additionally, the competitiveness of the district will put a check on the type of candidate that can get through a primary, if you live in a moderately balances district, it will be very hard for someone on the extreme left or the extreme right to win a general election, and that is the point. This will foster an environment of compromise that can move North Carolina forward to becoming the State I know it can be. I feel the ultimate goal of each district is to have, on average, a similar percentage of democrats, republicans, and independents, as the state as a whole. I understand that just given how the political geography of the state shapes out there will always be some safe blue districts in urban areas and safe red districts in rural areas, but if we stick to the basic fundamentals of balancing the districts as the state itself is balances I think we can really create a great redistricting plan.
1455		Aug 4 2017 10:16AM	Mrs. Carla Caccia	I would like an independent commission, not politicians, to be in charge of drawing districts. Thank you.
1456		Aug 4 2017 10:17AM	Mrs. Elaine Robbins	Let's begin a new regime of fair government that actually represents the people. Please make sure districts are based on nonpartisan criteria. Please confine each district to straightforward and geographically continuous areas.
1457		Aug 4 2017 10:17AM	Mr. Nathan Ebanks	The redistricting methods should not take race or income into account when redrawing the district lines. The method SHOULD NOT be an effort to gerrymander or influence the vote or will of the people of North Carolina. We are a democracy and our representatives at all levels should be elected by a fair voting process not unfairly influenced by gerrymandering or redistricting efforts for political power.
1458		Aug 4 2017 10:17AM	Mrs. Kathryn Barnwell	Redistricting should be done by a bipartisan committee so it is fair and equitable for all parties. This is necessary to give all citizens representation in our democracy! Anything otherwise is not democratic!
1459		Aug 4 2017 10:17AM	Ms. Kyle Allen	The drawing of our voting districts is too important to be left vulnerable to partisan politics. An independent council would be the most efficient way to guarantee the greatest level of impartiality possible.
1460		Aug 4 2017 10:17AM	Mr. Robert Priddy	The NC General Assembly must comply with U.S. Supreme Court affirmed a ruling that the current maps that elect the N.C. House and Senate are unconstitutional racial gerrymanders.
1461		Aug 4 2017 10:18AM	Ms. Linda Cloud	Please end the partisanship over redistricting, and have a computer algorithm decide where the boundaries of districts are. Neither party should be favored in the final districts. Thank you.
1462		Aug 4 2017 10:19AM	Mr. Kevin Smith	It is a farce that politicians get to choose their constituents rather than the other way around. Please hand over the power of redistricting to an independent authority. The debate that no authority can be truly independent is hollow and very transparent to your constituents. While it's true everyone has some bias, doesn't it make the more sense to hand that power over to someone with LESS bias than the actual lawmakers trying to get elected? This country is poised on a political precipice, and people are not going to take the blatant abuse of power much longer.
1463		Aug 4 2017 10:19AM	Ms. Diane Aurit	I live in Mooresville yet my new district 13 (Ted Budd) goes all the way to Greensboro and his closest office is 45 minutes away! This district should be redrawn so that its size and shape enable constituents to interact with our leaders more easily.
1464		Aug 4 2017 10:22AM	Joseph Purvis	If the last few years have shown us anything, it's that neither party can be trusted to draw up districting maps when their own jobs are on the line. The mathematical algorithms for voting efficiency and automated districting are more than good enough at this point: we need to turn district maps over to an independent, non-partisan committee tasked with applying mathematical divisions to create reasonable, compact districts.
1465		Aug 4 2017 10:23AM	Patrick Olson	Have North Carolina lead the way for once this decade. Partner with NC State, Duke, UNC in an open-source contest to develop a program which looks at population distribution (minus race, economic, party/voting data), and then redraws districts based on best-fit parameters given changes in population dynamics. The program could/would-need-to produce several templates from which a even-numbered bipartisan panel would select a final choice, that would then go forward to judicial panel for approval.
1466		Aug 4 2017 10:23AM	Ms. Judith Williams	To the Legislature: I would like for you to stop drawing maps that segregate voters. This is 2017 and it's time to have equal representation in North Carolina. The Legislature should represent every person in our state and have common sense voting districts. I believe that if you gerrymander the map again, the courts will have to step in and do job for you. I know you can do the right thing! Sincerely, Judith Williams

1467		Aug 4 2017 10:23AM	Mr. alan bonsall	politicians should have no hand in drawing district maps. it should be done by a non-partisan group. why is this really a thing ? dont answer that. i know whv it is. its iust so wrong.
1468		Aug 4 2017 10:24AM	Starr Watson	Via computer using obvious boundaries such as state and county lines, rivers, major highways, etc. No politician should be involved.
1469		Aug 4 2017 10:27AM	Ms. Cassandra Ezzell	I haven't felt represented in NC for years. I understand that there has been a long history of gerrymandering on both sides, but when a politician only has to worry about primary elections, and has such a lock on the general election, then they only listen to a small group of constituents. I want to see this gridlock end. I want people who will reach across the aisle and work for ALL of the citizens of NC, not just the passionate few who show up at partisan primary elections (which have historically low turnout).
1470		Aug 4 2017 10:27AM	Dr. Michael McKenzie	There should be a computer algorithm that can do this in a fair way.
1471		Aug 4 2017 10:27AM	Mr. Caleb Brown	I believe that for too long this state has suffered from unfair redistricting policies. Whether from the right or the left the truth is that when districts are drawn to favor one party or the other, the people lose. The people who are supposed to be represented in government through social contract. Please stop this cycle. We can work together as to find solutions to the problems that our state is facing. I was born in North Carolina, I have lived here all my life and I genuinely care for and love this state. I want to stay here and raise my children here. And to do that the state needs to work together, not stack the deck one way and then the other to drown out opposition and eliminate centrism. Democracy is a messy business, necessarily so. So please, I implore you to redistrict fairly. Let the people running for office be accountable to the people they represent. Make the state competitive. I think that the result will be less cataclysmic than either party believes, and the state government will work for the people in a way that it hasn't since I have been alive. North Carolina is too great of a state to fall into the mire of partisanship that the rest of the country has fallen into.
1472		Aug 4 2017 10:28AM	Ms. Rebecca Newton	If the NCGA is interested in creating districts that would fairly and accurately represent the people throughout North Carolina, there are simple solutions to map districts both fairly and accurately. If the NCGA are interested in limiting equal representation and voter access in this great state. they should stav the course.
1473		Aug 4 2017 10:28AM	Mr. Patrick Williams	Over the years, both parties have proven to gerrymander for their own political benefit, making an actual republic legislature difficult. How can our voices be heard through our representatives if there are no fair elections when it comes to districts? Personally, I find all the negative press regarding NC to be disheartening, and I think having an independent redistricting committee draw new maps would be a good way for NC to move forward and regain positive national views. Having fair elections that are not rigged through gerrymandering would help us really capture the people's voices and wishes in regards to how NC should move forward. Many politicians run for election with a position that they will work "across the aisle" or that they have great bipartisan records. This would be the ideal time to show unity and bipartisanship throughout the state by deciding to use an independent committee to draw new maps.
1474		Aug 4 2017 10:29AM	Mrs. Marilyn Ridgeway	There is a solution to this problem that has been well thought out. I would encourage or demand that those on the redistricting committee look at the work that a panel of former NC judges to redraw the maps. This was a test case for an independent commission as has been modeled in HR 200 and S B209. The plan worked. We need to move past the days of political gerrymandering, stop acting like quarreling brothers-he hit me first- and move to a plan that makes one person, one vote possible in our state. Power corrupts so let democracy work.
1475		Aug 4 2017 10:29AM	Ms. Rebecca Cerese	Any redrawn districts should accurately portray and represent the people of North Carolina and their interests. For too long both sides of the aisle have manipulated districts to strengthen their own power. This is wrong no matter what side does it. We want you to create fair, non-partisan legislative, congressional, locality, and court districts that are representative of the population and districting plans that result in competitive elections.
1476		Aug 4 2017 10:29AM	Bethany Reeves	Our state's lawmakers have demonstrated time and time again, on both sides of the aisle, that neither Democrats nor Republicans should be trusted nor tasked with determining the size and shape of North Carolina's voting districts. The time has come to show the rest of our country just how impartial and bipartisan our deeply diverse state can be. I call for the establishment of an independent council for the purposes of determining how the voting districts in North Carolina should be drawn, ensuring that the new boundaries be established in order to best serve all North Carolinians, and for complete transparency both during the establishment of said council and while our new voting map is being created. Also, please take a look at this article detailing computer programming for redrawing district lines: https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2014/06/03/this-computer-programmer-solved-gerrymandering-in-his-spare-

1477		Aug 4 2017 10:29AM	Mr. Christoper Scott	Elected officials should not be allowed to choose their own constituents. Voting districts should be drawn by non-partisan or bi-partisan commissions. Gerrymandering is antithetical to democracy and meaningful representation.
1478		Aug 4 2017 10:30AM	Mr. Thomas Anderson	I believe a computer model of some sort which doesn't factor party affiliation, economics, or race would be the best option. It should rely on sheer numbers alone. Elections are a populations primary tool to enact change in how government works for us. By gerrymandering, the legislature has effectively crippled our primary means of changing an under-performing system.
1479		Aug 4 2017 10:31AM	Zachary Dotsey	I am writing to request that our great state of North Carolina change the way districting is done. I know Democrats gerrymandered districts before Republicans took control. It wasn't right then and it's not right now. Districts should be done using a nonpartisan method. There are plenty of options and methods available to choose from. I want to feel that my vote matters in the state I love.
1480		Aug 4 2017 10:31AM	Ms. Juliet Jarvis	As a long time citizen of North Carolina, I am asking the state legislature to do the right thing for its citizens and have a bipartisan committee redraw our districts fairly to give EVERY citizen a legitimate voice and representation in state government. I didn't approve when the Democrats gerrymandered the districts and I don't approve of it now. I am tax payer who cares about my community and the people in it, votes regularly, and votes for the right person for the position vs. along straight party lines. It is your fiduciary duty as lawmakers to do right by the citizens of this state by offering them fair and transparent elections where everyone has equal opportunity to representation. Failure to do so is unconstitutional and a clear failure in legislative and moral leadership.
1481		Aug 4 2017 10:32AM	Sara Bausch	We do not want maps drawn by the GOP to benefit the GOP. There are multiple studies that show that while only 1/3 of North Carolinians are registered republicans, over 2/3 of each legislature are registered republicans. This was ruled unconstitutional. Why should we trust the GOP to redraw districts when it's obvious you do not represent us in any way. Public comment is the only recourse we have to keep your people honest. We do not want MORE of the NCGOP's dirty unconstitutional bs. You deserve to be voted in Fairly.. Then maybe the GOP could try getting some decent ideas instead of disenfranchising younger people, women, and people of color. Try representing the actual people of NC and not the GOP.
1482		Aug 4 2017 10:33AM	Ms. Sri Putcha	KISS- Keep It Short and Simple. Simply divide the population into the closets things to squares/ rectangles. No more weird shapes!
1483		Aug 4 2017 10:33AM	Beverly McRee	Gerrymandering has taken the Democratic process out of NC elections. It's sad when voters feel their vote means nothing in their state. Drawing new districts should NOT be done by politicians. NC voters deserve better!
1484		Aug 4 2017 10:33AM	Mrs. Adrienne Pilon	Fair and square, please. No more gerrymandering! The voters are watching.
1485		Aug 4 2017 10:34AM	Michael Lapomarda	The maps should be drawn by an independent 3rd party, giving neither party an advantage. It is time to represent the will of the people.
1486		Aug 4 2017 10:34AM	Ms. Kathleen Molony	Please use an independent, non-partisan process for redrawing the maps. I remain registered unaffiliated because I feel it's important to look at all candidates. I feel that so many voices are not being represented based on the maps that have been drawn. The purpose of government is to represent all people, and both sides need to have a degree of compromise. The current setup does not reflect that. Independent redistricting!
1487		Aug 4 2017 10:34AM	Sara Stratton	We need to redraw districts as compactly as possible to get the numbers needed and without considering party affiliation in any way. The redistricting should be done by a non-partisan, independent board with review or checks/balances, without having to resort to the delay, cost, and acrimony of the courts.
1488		Aug 4 2017 10:35AM	Mr. Ashraf Farrag	As a NC native born in Winston-Salem, a graduate of both the NC public school system in Forsyth County and our excellent public University system, I believe that the only fair way to redistrict our state is to utilize a mathematical formula / computer model. We have more than enough highly educated professionals living all over this state in addition to several excellent academic institutions who can tackle this problem so that the process is as impartial as possible, fair to the citizens of NC and not based on any specific political party's or politician's interests. To do anything else in the year 2017 would be archaic and continue to demonstrate to the rest of the civilized world just how uneducated and partisan that this state has become.
1489		Aug 4 2017 10:36AM	Melissa Haefele	The districting maps should be drawn by an independent third party. There is too much conflict of interest if politicians are the ones drawing the maps. It is too tempting to make things easier rather than fair. We need fair representation of all people in our government and without fairlv drawn mans that is not happening.
1490		Aug 4 2017 10:36AM	Ms. Tereasa Flanagan	But I am a native Floridian I completely disagree and also think it is Shady and fraudulent if politicians have to read District something to win obviously they don't have what it takes up front to win
1491		Aug 4 2017 10:37AM	Mrs. Christie Driscoll	Please use non-partisan computer algorithms to determine districts. No cherry picking!

1492		Aug 4 2017 10:38AM	Ms. Lynn Worth	There was a time when mountain counties were together in districts, and we could elect people from mountain counties to represent our interests. Now we are the red-headed stepchildren of urban counties and the voices of mountain people are no longer heard in government. This is despicable and cowardly.
1493		Aug 4 2017 10:38AM	Mrs. Kyle Munn	North Carolina deserves fair and competitive elections in order to represent all North Carolinians. Today we have the power of big data and sophisticated algorithms that can ensure proportionally drawn and competitive districts without inserting the political will of Democrats or Republicans into the process. We should be looking towards the Hirsch model or something similar for our redistricting process: http://img.slate.com/media/1/123125/123054/2207789/2208001/2208423/Hirsch_Redistricting.pdf
1494		Aug 4 2017 10:39AM	Mr. Brian Gazza	Allowing politicians to draw districts is incomprehensible, naive, and must stop. It should be done by an independent non-partisan entity. The illegality of it has been proven by the courts. Do not allow this.
1495		Aug 4 2017 10:39AM	Brian Kasher	<p>Political districts should not be designed by those with a vested interest in the outcome or make-up of the district. This is a form of corruption that has been normalized by both parties in state government. Legalized corruption is a sign that our country is failing in the great experiment established by our founding fathers.</p> <p>It seems a little silly for me as a voting citizen with interest in this matter to be directed to comment and yet not provided a link to the existing proposals that I should be reviewing to develop comment.</p> <p>I do not have access through this form or a quick google search to any specific language being proposed. Therefore, I can not at this time provide meaningful specific input. In general my input at this time is that to gerrymander is a true form of corruption designed to thwart the intent and direction of the voting population.</p> <p>The world knows that in North Carolina the party in control selects its voters to ensure that control is not taken away by the voters.</p> <p>The North Carolina system of political political districting, as it exists today is corrupt, anti-democratic and designed to usurp the will of the people of North Carolina.</p> <p>An independent body should establish voting districts in a way that is not weighted to the majority party.</p>
1496		Aug 4 2017 10:39AM	Mrs. Judy Gealy	I don't see any need to rush through the process of redistricting. Let's get it right!
1497		Aug 4 2017 10:40AM	Mrs. Cynthia Stroupe-Davis	Please use a software program to redistrict the state of NC. You should have no say in how it is done because you are directly affected by the outcome. It is a serious conflict of interest for you to do this yourself.
1498		Aug 4 2017 10:40AM	Mrs. Tracy Custer	PLEASE consider ALL of the citizens of this state when you re-draw voting districts. Stacking the districts in favor of either party is unfair and unethical. Districts should be drawn based on population so that each citizen has an equal vote. I strongly suggest the use of a non-partisan mapping program that will create compact, competitive districts
1499		Aug 4 2017 10:40AM	Mrs. Jayne Abbot	We need fair and unbiased districts to be drawn. This is OUR democracy, not Republican or Democrats to pick and choose their voters. Our current districts are a disaster and have turned our state into a lopsided/non-majority selected legislature. Redistricting needs to be turned over to a bipartisan committee, and that committee can not be chosen by those in power in our legislature, they MUST be outside of the politic system, and proven to stand for the people of this state, not their party or self interest. No other option is acceptable!
1500		Aug 4 2017 10:42AM	Ms. Brittany Clark	Please consider an independent group or process to make the new district maps. Preferably an unbiased computer program such as the one mentioned in this article: https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2014/06/03/this-computer-programmer-solved-gerrymandering-in-his-spare-time/?utm_term=.a2750e4ed6ff
1501		Aug 4 2017 10:43AM	Mr. John Downing	<p>Take the party politics OUT of redistricting. This is the 21st Century - use computers to draw equal population compact districts. And to save money, here's a link; it's already been done for NC!</p> <p>https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2014/06/03/this-computer-programmer-solved-gerrymandering-in-his-spare-time/?utm_term=.e0224129a7d7</p> <p>No more gerrymandering.</p>
1502		Aug 4 2017 10:43AM	Mr. Ronald Long	<p>Our NC State Constitution provides for redistricting every 10 years based on the Census. Our next scheduled Census is 2020 and therefore this court ordered redrawing is violating our State Constitution.</p> <p>I agree that Race should not be a factor in the drawing of districts. That being said, I believe that all counties and where possible all cities/towns should not be divided but kept whole.</p> <p>On a personal level, I am extremely pleased with my current NC House Representative, and NC Senate Representative and do not like nor support the idea of redrawing any districts that will cause that to</p>

1503		Aug 4 2017 10:43AM	Mr. Tom Everly	Please use a non-Partisian method to make legal voting districts.
1504		Aug 4 2017 10:44AM	Mr. Chad Haefele	All districting and redistricting should be done by an independent, non-partisan group. I don't want either party to control this process.
1505		Aug 4 2017 10:45AM	Kuan Chen	Please draw the districts based on the population size and the needs of each region. The current gerrymandered map look and is ridiculously biased. Please make each district diverse and well balanced.
1506		Aug 4 2017 10:46AM	Dr. Brett Froelich	The redistricting should be done by algorithm, and not hand drawn. There should be zero political or racial motivation, and based solely on geography and population QUANTITY, not population Demographics.
1507		Aug 4 2017 10:46AM	Ms. Geraldine Zurek	Districts should be drawn based on number of citizens aged 18 and over. There should be no linking to party affiliation or race. Racially based districts mean that any candidate outside of those districts can ignore issues important to racial minorities. We can use computer generated maps to get districts that are truly representative of the population. Enough with the partisan re-drawing every ten years.
1508		Aug 4 2017 10:47AM	Mr. Jeffrey Canaday	I support Gov. Cooper's plan to give an independent commission the power to draw new district maps. I do not support Republican efforts to keep gerrymandered districts in place. Thank you. Jeffrey Canaday
1509		Aug 4 2017 10:48AM	Ms. Mary Davenport	end gerrymandering now
1510		Aug 4 2017 10:49AM	Mr. Steve Lancaster	The Democrats placed our District with Representative Butterfield for years. In our District we the voters have had no choice in Representation until the Republicans redrew our district last election.Can you please keep this part of Wayne County in the 7th District
1511		Aug 4 2017 10:49AM	Lauren Goodridge	The new districts should not only be able to stand up in court, they should be made without regard to the parties or politics of the individuals within them. Simple geographical separations, such as county lines or rivers and streams, are one sensible approach. Another would be using census information in a database to have computers draw maps based on the required legal criteria. It would be easy to include only needed measures and disregard information that could create bias in makeup of district constituents. Please remember that you were elected to represent and it's possible a different candidate may better represent the group of people voting. While it's human nature to seek to keep a job or level of power, the purpose of government is the common good of the people.
1512		Aug 4 2017 10:50AM	Elizabeth Woodman	Please stop the gerrymandering and give us solid districts that are not about race or political affiliation.
1513		Aug 4 2017 10:50AM	Mrs. Dixie Robinson	Redistricting should be done by a non-partisan committee. Politicians should not be picking their constituents, it is the other way around. It dilutes the voice of the people if you make them too partisan. Political parties (all of them) should have their candidates get elected based on their campaign rhetoric not because the system is rigged. Neither rural or urban voices should be diluted. Each area has its needs and concerns and these should be fairly represented. I spent all my years until recently in Alabama, a state that is truly backward and where the politicians are very corrupt. Gerrymanderd districts have greatly contributed to this in recent years. Please don't let North Carolina move backward and become like the state I worked hard to leave.
1514		Aug 4 2017 10:50AM	Geoffrey Mackey	North Carolina district lines have been the subject of intense scrutiny by the Federal government because they were blatantly drawn according to racial and socio-economic 'boundaries.' These lines also heavily favor candidates who ascribe to a certain political party. This is unethical and immoral behavior, clearly conducted for purposes of gaining power and control over the people of North Carolina, by people who refuse to fairly and honestly represent the people of North Carolina. I've been raised here all my life. I graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, bought a house in Raleigh, and truly love my neighbors here. I cannot say the same for the people who are supposed to serve, protect, and encourage us as citizens to be the best we can be according to every metric. When my neighbor is marginalized because of the color of their skin so state legislators gain political power, I am completely and utterly disgusted. So much so that I intend to leave this state forever if this kind of racist, power-hungry non-sense continues. The human capacity to empathize and think rationally has always pushed forward through acceptance, fairness, and open-mindedness. Please do not continue to make North Carolina the national symbol of the exact opposite of those values.
1515		Aug 4 2017 10:52AM	Ms. Kathryn Listwa	Legislative districts should be drawn by an independent group. Politicians from both parties have shown over and over that they are willing to blatantly use factors such as race, income and education level, and political affiliation to finagle more seats for their party rather than drawing districts that will result in the electorate being accurately represented. Independent groups, such as the panel of retired judges featured in the article linked to below, have shown that they can create much more effective districts: https://sanford.duke.edu/articles/nonpartisan-redistricting-panel-reveals-unofficial-congressional-voting-map

1516		Aug 4 2017 10:52AM	Ms. Amber Featherstone	I implore the state legislature to utilize outside, independent, and non-partisan means to withdraw the districts so that they are fair and unbiased. This should not even have to be a request. All elected officials should demand this for the sake of democracy in this state. Please put party politics aside and do what is right and fair for all peoples in North Carolina
1517		Aug 4 2017 10:53AM	Dr. Elizabeth Abernathy	Representing the people of North Carolina means actually REPRESENTING THEM and not deviously advancing petty partisan agendas that do not reflect the majority of North Carolinians. The maps should be INDEPENDENTLY drawn without consideration of partisan advantage. Remember the press about NC no longer being part of a democracy based on basic criteria? Or the phrase "taxation without representation"? This is not advancing the present well being or the economic future of or state. Quit dancing with the Devil so you can have power. What you have done is wrong - now is the time to make it right
1518		Aug 4 2017 10:53AM	Ms. Alexis Marteslo	<p>Voting is a fundamental citizen right that must be guaranteed. Fair electoral maps are essential to a functioning democracy. I understand the General Assembly is currently setting the criteria to be used to redraw North Carolina's legislative maps.</p> <p>I urge you to support criteria and processes to create fair maps by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Disclosing all criteria and assumptions used on a timely basis as part of the public map review process - Not setting partisan targets for election outcomes or purposely protecting incumbents - Excluding data on voters' party registration and past voting - Excluding data on incumbents' or candidates' addresses - Excluding data on race and ethnicity except where necessary to comply with federal law - Ensuring the "opportunity for protected classes of voters to elect the candidates of their choice" as required by the Voting Rights Act, including the use of standard methods of polarized voting analysis, such as Bivariate Ecological Regression Analysis, and the reporting of the results by district for each set of maps - Strictly applying the Stephenson process to define VRA districts and to draw county clusters that comply with North Carolina's Whole County Provision - Using accepted measures of compactness that measure both the extent to which each district is spread out from its center (e.g., Reock and Convex Hull) and how smooth or contorted each district is (e.g., Polsby-Popper and Schwartzberg) and then making the results of this analysis available for each district and each set of maps <p>Reporting the efficiency gap for each district and set of districts after drawing each set of maps (but not using partisan data to draw the maps)</p> <p>Making maps available for review and comment by the public in</p>
1519		Aug 4 2017 10:54AM	Mrs. Bobo Deng	I think it is disgusting the way districts have been gerrymandered to the extreme. Any time anybody wins by more than 60% of the vote signifies that the representative of that district is not accountable to their constituents- whether Democrat or Republican. I would like to see independent redistricting and avoid at all costs the ugly serpentine districts we have all come to detest. Politicians should never get to choose their constituents
1520		Aug 4 2017 10:54AM	Tyler Aken	Stop with the partisan districting. Use an independent third party to redistrict the districts.
1521		Aug 4 2017 10:54AM	Mr. Jason Lecker	Redistricting should be done exclusively by open source computer algorithm and approved by a bipartisan commission. The algorithm should only take population into account--not race, sex, political leanings, etc. I would like to remind any Republicans who think gerrymandering is the key to everlasting political victory: the Democrats thought the same thing before 2010, and look where that got them
1522		Aug 4 2017 10:55AM	Mr. Michael Ortiz	Please commission a non partisan third party to draw districts based on a regional concept. End gerrymandering now.
1523		Aug 4 2017 10:58AM	Mrs. Beth Brown	No more gerrymandering of any kind... no more packing or cracking... no more drawing of "irregular districts." Time to get the politicians out of redistricting... the real and perceived conflicts of interest harm the real, everyday interests of the PEOPLE who are supposed to be represented by those elected. Time to make this a fair process across the board. Redistricting at this time should be administered by an INDEPENDENT commission, there should be clear criteria on how to draw district lines, and the process should be transparent... NC constituents should be able to see and know how/why the lines are drawn the way they are drawn. A NC vote should be a fair NC vote.
1524		Aug 4 2017 10:59AM	Ms. Landen Gailey	It is critical that our state move to an impartial, non-partisan system of districting. The current system allows for abuses on the part of which ever party is in power, and is detrimental to the future of our state. It is my fervent hope that North Carolina will move to implement impartial non-partisan districts as as soon as possible.
1525		Aug 4 2017 10:59AM	Pamela Myers	Politicians should not be involved in any redistricting. Period. This should be done by a non partisan agency that has no funding from corporate or political PACs. Our democracy is at stake. These political games are hurting people and making politicians rich. Gerrymandering has diminished the voice of the people and has contributed in a very large part to oligarchy. It's really pretty disgusting that I even have to write to anyone about this fact
1526		Aug 4 2017 10:59AM	Mr. Christopher Briggs	We need a independent committee to redraw our district maps. Politics should not create or maps to divide. Districts should make logical sense and not gerrymandered borders.

1527		Aug 4 2017 10:59AM	Ms. Judith Schledorn	Voting districts should not be determined by sitting politicians. Recent history proves that this is a direct and serious conflict of interest. The voting districts should be determined by a non-partisan body to ensure fair and reasonable districts. Voters should be choosing whom they vote for. Elected officials (and political parties) should not be choosing who votes for them! This is an obvious abuse of power.
1528		Aug 4 2017 11:00AM	Dr. Prairie Goodwin	Representative democracy is the cornerstone on which our democracy is built. Districts should be drawn independent of party, and should actually be representative of the people who live in North Carolina.
1529		Aug 4 2017 11:01AM	Mr. Alexander Kovalev	It is necessary to use specialized software to draw the boundaries of the election districts, followed by review and validation of the resulting maps by an independent committee. We don't want a person like Tom Hofeller to draw the maps of electoral districts. He will cheat because he has an agenda.
1530		Aug 4 2017 11:01AM	Ms. pat roos	this is an important issue for our state government. Redistricting into non-gerrymandered district is necessary, ethical and important
1531		Aug 4 2017 11:01AM	Ms. Megan Patton	Please use a third party, nonpartisan organization to draw the maps. Neither party should be able to put their finger on the scales that much.
1532		Aug 4 2017 11:01AM	Susan Nguyen	Please redistrict in a way that is fair and best represents the voice of voters. This includes age, race, and political affiliation. Use math formulas mathematicians are recommending to calculate the efficiency of districts. https://www.wired.com/2017/04/how-math-can-save-democracv/
1533		Aug 4 2017 11:03AM	Dr. Heather Settle	I would like to make a meaningful public comment, but until the maps are released, I can't actually do so. How can citizens be a legitimate part of this process without transparency and accountability in the process? If the maps have not yet been redrawn, given the amount of time that's passed since the court initially rules on this, that reflects badly on our legislative leaders. If they have been redrawn already and they're being withheld from the public, that also reflects poorly. Please release the maps so citizens can be part of the democratic process as intended.
1534		Aug 4 2017 11:04AM	Ms. Adelaida Alamo	I urge the redistricting committee to adopt nonpartisan criteria for drawing new legislative maps. We need independent redistricting that will ensure the true will of the people will be represented during elections. Our democracy is founded upon free and fair elections and gerrymandering to favor one party over the other, one race over the other, or one socio-economic background over the other must end.
1535		Aug 4 2017 11:07AM	Glenn Steadman	We need a truly balanced approach. As a registered Republican it makes me sick to see how we have let the political atmospheres take a way from our freedom vote. I am not a big fan of big government, but I am a fan of fair elections and all voices heard. This will allow us to truly hear from politicians and allow all voices to be heard so that a true debate can take place and we can vote in those who are going to the absolute best for their respective districts, no matter if they are democrat or republican.
1536		Aug 4 2017 11:08AM	Faisal Khan	Dear Sir/Madam, We have the right to vote and we have the right to be counted in the election and counted equally. It's time for this to stop. Please stop racial gerrymandering. U.S. Supreme Court has made it plain it won't tolerate the racial gerrymandering that has infected the state's congressional and legislative district maps. In April, a Public Policy Polling survey found nearly 60 percent of North Carolina voters would favor an independent system of redistricting. Just 9 percent opposed such a move. Thank you. Regards,
1537		Aug 4 2017 11:08AM	Mr. Brian Joura	Districts should be drawn by computer programs to optimize for equal population and compactness. http://bdistricting.com/2010/NC/
1538		Aug 4 2017 11:09AM	Dr. Megan Kendellen	The most important aspect of redistricting to me is that the districts fairly represent consolidated geographical areas, without improperly providing favor to one political party or the other based on the demographics in those districts and whom has historically voted for each party. I also believe that drawing of districts should be done by an impartial or, if necessary, bipartisan panel, rather than elected government officials. It is unconscionable for politicians to actively work to cement their own seats and to purposefully provide certain areas of the state (for example rural areas over high-population centers) more control over our state government. The Supreme Court has made it clear that the current boundaries are racially motivated. Additionally, they have placed population centers at a disadvantage legislatively. The boundaries must not be drawn such that the Republicans are ensuring their own dominance in the state government, regardless of what the majority of the population wants.
1539		Aug 4 2017 11:09AM	Mrs. Sarah Thompson	I'm uncomfortable with the idea that our elected officials can use redistricting to chose their constituents and entrench themselves in power and for partisan advantage. Regardless of which side of the aisle you sit on, it's a practice I oppose. If there is an unbiased and non-political way to redistrict, that is what I would support, even if it means that ability to redistrict is taken from politicians so it can be done objectively.

1540		Aug 4 2017 11:10AM	Ms. Rebecca OBryon	Please use a bipartisan committee for this. Geographical location should used to decide this- not voter registration. I am registered unaffiliated but do tend to vote Republican but also a teacher. It's really difficult to explain to future voters why these districts occur other than using the words "checks and balance" through the courts and "gerrymandering". The people of NC deserve fair representation of their geographical location. Thank you!
1541		Aug 4 2017 11:10AM	Brent Morton	District lines should be set by a grid system. The lines should be done by computer in a geometric pattern that splits the district in to 12 sections. Then they can be sectioned in to districts. All section have to be adjoining to each other and divide into either east or west sections or north or south and be of equal population not of equal size.
1542		Aug 4 2017 11:11AM	Mrs. Jennifer Waters	Please make the maps fair, stop these power grabs and attempts to silence minorities. We live in a democracy, that means each and every one of us deserves a fair chance to be heard. Please remember who we are!!
1543		Aug 4 2017 11:11AM	Mr. Phillip Craver	I do not want race used as the predominant factor in drawing district lines. That is a violation of the Equal Protection Clause. Constitutionally adequate districts should be enacted as quickly as possible to protect the rights of North Carolina citizens.
1544		Aug 4 2017 11:11AM	Mr. SHANNON FULLER	Redistricting should be permanently separated from any partisan or legislative body and an amendment to the NC constitution should be passed barring partisan redistricting once and for all. There is geo-spatial (see ESRI) technology that can be utilized to draw impartial, rule based districts. An independent commission overseen by the NC Supreme Court should compile the rules. Some examples: - Geographically continuous, compact districts - Exclude party affiliation completely We will never be "One State" until partisan, racial and economic redistricting is ended.
1545		Aug 4 2017 11:12AM	Tamara Oxley	North Carolina, and all other states, should take advantage of the technology available to us in order to avoid subjective and, therefore, political decisions on how districts are drawn. Neither party can be trusted to create districts on objective population alone, so use technology and existing algorithms to redraw the districts. http://www.st/2u82V1uR
1546		Aug 4 2017 11:13AM	Monica Museler	I request an independent organization draw these maps based on current population. At no time before during or after the process should a member of the legislature, staff or representative from either party be involved. The maps should be free of any political bias.
1547		Aug 4 2017 11:14AM	Mrs. Susan Baldwin	I don't claim to be a legislative expert, or lawyer, or any kind of specialist in judicial manners. But when a judge talks about the extreme racism and laser-like focus of NC's redistricting on keeping GOP members elected and surpassing minority and low-income voters, I listen. The map looks like some kind of wicked trail, disenfranchising the citizens of NC. I applaud those who will be giving up their nights and weekends to redraw. Please pay attention to the needs and voting rights of ALL of our citizens, and know that even people like me (non-experts, no judicial or legislative experience) are watching. Thank you
1548		Aug 4 2017 11:15AM	Ms. Linda Cave	I think it would be fair to draw district lines by county lines. Decide on how many districts and as equally as possible, draw the district lines by the county lines. DONE DEAL No district should be a skinny line going across several counties from Charlotte to Raleigh. NO district should have only one county and other districts have five to ten counties. That gives one county as much voice as a group of counties. Population numbers or race or median income in an any area should have NO bearing on how the district lines are drawn.
1549		Aug 4 2017 11:16AM	Mr. Wayne Abraham	I am adamantly opposed to the districts being redrawn as they have been in the past with partisan and racial gerrymandering. I want a level playing field. You are not entitled to choose your voters, we are entitled to choose you. Drawing "safe" districts for your cronies isn't going to work. The legislative districts need to be redrawn as impartially as possible. Let the chips fall where they may.
1550		Aug 4 2017 11:18AM	Mrs. Ramona Gonzalez	I would truly appreciate when the lines are drawn-that they are drawn with true desire to represent the people in that particular area. How can we say that someone will represent the people in their district; if they have no true idea of who the people are in that district. Not just the representatives friends, etc. Too much of not enough going on with politics. Let's get to being fair and impartial. Let the kings heart be truly ruled by God and not money, fortune or fame.
1551		Aug 4 2017 11:18AM	Mrs. Barbara Aycock	Non-partisan, fair, equal redistricting would give true representation for all citizens.
1552		Aug 4 2017 11:19AM	Mr. Alan Moran	Politicians should not get to choose their voters. Implementing an independent voting commission for all North Carolina state and federal districts that uses unbiased technology is the fairest way to represent all of the people.

1553		Aug 4 2017 11:19AM	Ms. Laurel Harry	A close examination of the district lines in Salisbury reveals a case study in "packing." Districts should be redrawn using computer models to create geographically sane boundaries. Please don't trot out the canard that computer programs are useless because they are created by human actors with inherent bias; I'll take my chances with the computer thank you very much (http://scholarship.law.duke.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1026&context=djclpp). I am tired of NC being mentioned in every major article/documentary on egregious gerrymandering. Enough!
1554		Aug 4 2017 11:19AM	Ms. Carolyn Baxter	Hello, I believe that a non-partisan body should be in charge of re-drawing the maps for North Carolina. I believe the court case has shown that politicians do not draw fair districts. A non-partisan body would alleviate any future embarrassment of NC politics and provide a fairer North Carolina. Thanks, Carolyn
1555		Aug 4 2017 11:19AM	Ms. Dorothy Demarest	The drawing of weird districts to control the party that will win is detrimental to the citizens that the person is supposed to represent! They do NOT represent a party - they are supposed to represent the people in their district, their unique problems and interests, and how can they do it with these bizarre maps? They don't even know the people they are representing! Please stop doing this and stop focusing on the party rather than the people
1556		Aug 4 2017 11:19AM	Jack Williams	As a registered voter to neither party please work TOGETHER to develop maps that are fair to all residents of the state. Republicans like to be known as Christians, but STEALING and votes (pretty much what you are doing when you have a super majority in a 50/50 state) and representatives is not very Christian like. Please use an independent committee to determine the legislative districts.
1557		Aug 4 2017 11:21AM	Mr. Mark Seawell	Redistricting should be done in a non-partisan way. The people drawing the districts should not have political or party bias, or be influenced or coerced by anyone with a political agenda. The algorithm used to determine districts should not be designed to weaken or strengthen the influence of any specific demographic or political affiliation. The design should be based objectively on geography and population density, but should be agnostic with respect to race, ethnicity, religion, etc. Specific demographics should not be consolidated to the same regions when they reside in different municipal territories. Why not use existing territory definitions that have been created for other purposes, which would be sure to rule out intentional bias -- such as city or county lines, etc? If necessary, an independent 3rd party should redraw districts if it means a more
1558		Aug 4 2017 11:21AM	Mrs. Laurel Kilgore	Redistricting must be fair and result in as many swing districts as possible, allowing voters a real choice between candidates from different parties. The current gerrymandering secures seats for only three Democrats and ten for Republicans. Secure seats do not give voters choice, and choice provides a better, stronger democracy for all. Redistricting must be done as soon as possible. We have waited far too long. This NCGA has waited far too long to respond to the Court decision. Get on with it! Please!
1559		Aug 4 2017 11:21AM	Mr. Johnny Wales	Hello, First up, drawing district lines has been a problem for generations. The core of the problem is that politicians who are running in these districts are also the ones drawing the lines. This could easily be solved with a nonpartisan redistricting committee. Another solution is to use a computer and tell it to draw the most compact, contiguous possible districts. Another way to consider is transferable proportional representation. Draw districts to have similar levels of population, and people would run for districts. The number of seats in the legislature is decided by the state wide vote totals, and the representative who fills each seat is decided by who gets the highest vote totals. So if there are 10 seats statewide, and republicans get 60% of the statewide vote, then 6 seats go Republican and 4 go democrat. The 6 republicans in those seats are the ones who got the most votes. This way, every vote counts. If you live in a heavily Republican district and vote democratic, your vote still means something because it helps the democrats pick up seats. If you live in a heavily Republican district and vote Republican, you both help the republicans pick up seats and help your individual that you vote for get to be one of the ones in the legislature. This permanently solves the gerrymandering because the shape of the districts don't matter, it just matters they all have similar population.
1560		Aug 4 2017 11:23AM	Mr. William Pitt	The districts need to reflect the needs of the people who serve and those in the complete geograohic area.
1561		Aug 4 2017 11:23AM	Anne Robotti	I don't think redistricting is a Republican or Democrat issue. It was wrong when the Democrats did it, and it's wrong now. Supermajorities keep our state from truly representative democracy, and it is vital to the political process that ALL votes count.
1562		Aug 4 2017 11:24AM	Mr. John Caputo	I believe that the districts should be optimized for equal population and compactness.

1563		Aug 4 2017 11:24AM	Mr. Pamela Frome	I support non-partisan redistricting that fairly represents all citizens of North Carolina. I want to see fair, non-partisan districts created for the State Senate and House and the US Congressional Districts. This is the most important issue facing our state today. Districts should NOT be drawn for the purpose of favoring or discriminating against any incumbent, political candidate, or political party. I request that Representative David Lewis and Dr. Tom Hofeller be barred from participating in redistricting now and in the future given their 2011 roles in depriving millions of citizens of their right to vote.
1564		Aug 4 2017 11:24AM	Mr. Joel Sowers	Redistricting should not be done by politicians or "independent panels". Districts should be drawn algorithmically using computer programs and census block data. District boundaries need to reflect real neighborhoods. http://bdistricting.com/2010/ The way in which we redraw our districts is absolutely critical to de-polarizing our political culture and restoring public discourse in America. I can't think of anything that's more important than this issue. Gerrymandered districts provide shelter for hard left and hard right candidates and representatives and leaving constituents feeling isolated and disenfranchised .
1565		Aug 4 2017 11:24AM	Mr. Jack Wall	The push here - and it's not clear where the courts stand on the whole process (see Justin Baker's article in Greensboro News)as it's not clear how biased they are - is to redo the district lines, but the redoing is being put in the hands of the very people who criminalized it in the first place. It's time to turn to a non-biased, non-partisan, computerized system that would redraw lines based on fair and just parameters, not on partisan ideology and a grab or power!
1566		Aug 4 2017 11:25AM	Mr. richard leary	The immediate past maps have produced an engaged and well informed public, on matters of public policy, and elements of the previous maps should be retained where allowed by law. Counties should be kept whole as prescribed by law. Cities and Towns should be kept as whole as possible The courts should respect the role of the General Assembly, who under the Federal and State Constitutions and the laws of the State of North Carolina are responsible for redistricting.
1567		Aug 4 2017 11:25AM	Mrs. Sabrina Colon	It is time to re-establish us, the voters, to a state of electing our representatives rather than the other way around. Not having fair electoral maps drawn in accordance with the law not only violates that basic principle but also makes gerrymandering the norm. Without fair and proportioned representation by the electorate, there is not only representational mismatch and mismatched policy but worse - just plain old voter apathy. This is unacceptable. Establish an independent redistricting commission now. Follow the California model or create your own, but do this now. What is currently hurting democrats will certainly hurt republicans in the future if one is viewing through a partisan lens. There are different ways to establish an independent commission. Do this now or risk having no say in how this is established in the future, as the voting public is becoming much, much more aware of this and wants it to change.
1568		Aug 4 2017 11:27AM	Mrs. Amy Ford	I believe we will only have fair elections once an independent commission makes redistricting decisions. I'm a registered Democrat, but I also don't want the Democratic party to be in charge of drawing lines. Ideally, the legislature should reflect the state's wants and needs, and gerrymandering from either side means that that doesn't happen. Thank you for your consideration.
1569		Aug 4 2017 11:30AM	Mr. Harvey Richmond	I urge your committee to come up with a bipartisan redistricting plan that to the maximum extent possible does not split precincts, towns and cities, and counties. I also urge you to create districts that are compact. and avoid strange stretched out districts.
1570		Aug 4 2017 11:31AM	Ms. B Clendenning	Independent, non-partisan commission is the ONLY way to redistrict fairly. Let NC once again become a respected leader nationwide.
1571		Aug 4 2017 11:31AM	Ms. Sarah Bass	Districts should be created by a non-partisan, independent, unbiased computer algorithm. Our democracy is founded on the principles that everyone's voice is heard equally, and unbiased districts are essential to maintaining that democracy.
1572		Aug 4 2017 11:32AM	Ms. Christina Reagan	Both parties have proven that they cannot be trusted with redistricting. We need an independent, bipartisan committee to redraw our maps or we will be doomed to repeat our history. There have been plenty of third party examples that use algorithms to computer generate the districts in a uniform way, you simply need to choose one. In the spirit of democracy, do the right thing.
1573		Aug 4 2017 11:32AM	Mrs. Aashima Rodkey	Redistricting should be conducted by an independent organization or committee. This process should be completely open and transparent to NC state citizens.
1574		Aug 4 2017 11:32AM	Mrs. Melissa Zingle	Please do independent redistricting. Use computer modeling for true parity and fairness. No more districts by political parties.

1575		Aug 4 2017 11:33AM	Ms. Mary Goodkind	<p>We need fair, impartial districts. That means we need a fair and impartial, non-partisan redistricting process. No political party should be exclusively in charge of this process. The process should also be public, with adequate time for citizens and grass roots groups to weigh in with their thoughts. This is important. Please take the time and make the effort to make our system representative again. The longterm health of our democracy is more important than the clout of any particular party. Think longterm! Here are some of the points the current process should adopt:</p> <p>Disclosing all criteria and assumptions used on a timely basis as part of the public map review process</p> <p>Not setting partisan targets for election outcomes or purposely protecting incumbents</p> <p>Excluding data on voters' party registration and past voting</p> <p>Excluding data on incumbents' or candidates' addresses</p> <p>Excluding data on race and ethnicity except where necessary to comply with federal law</p> <p>Ensuring the “opportunity for protected classes of voters to elect the candidates of their choice” as required by the Voting Rights Act, including the use of standard methods of polarized voting analysis, such as Bivariate Ecological Regression Analysis, and the reporting of the results by district for each set of maps</p> <p>Strictly applying the Stephenson process to define VRA districts and to draw county clusters that comply with North Carolina's Whole County Provision</p> <p>Using accepted measures of compactness that measure both the extent to which each district is spread out from its center (e.g., Reock and Convex Hull) and how smooth or contorted each district is (e.g., Polsby-Popper and Schwartzberg) and then making the results of this analysis available for each district and each set of maps</p> <p>Reporting the efficiency gap for each district and set of districts after</p>
1576		Aug 4 2017 11:34AM	Mrs. Wendy Masters	<p>I don't think the elected people should draw the maps. It's too much power for them. It would be way to easy to draw the map in a way that benfits their party. It should be done by a 3rd party that looks just at the numbers. That draw it the best way to show what the community wants. Every voice should matter. The way it is now it doesn't look this way</p>
1577		Aug 4 2017 11:34AM	Dr. Jason Shiflet	<p>Manipulating district lines for political gain is shameful, no matter the party. Please establish and maintain a non-partisan commission to oversee district boundaries. The commission should be composed of non-politicians. The commission should seek to maximize representativeness such that the resulting elections reflect the proportionality of both the districts and the state. In no way, should the Republicans or Democrats have a super-majority in our state, based on it's current make-up</p>
1578		Aug 4 2017 11:34AM	Mr. Travis Boyd	<p>Redistricting MUST be done by an independent commission. If redistricting is done by the legislature, regardless of party, the people of North Carolina will be misrepresented. In my opinion, an independent commission should develop a computer-run algorithm that divides North Carolina into new districts. But regardless, redistricting MUST be done by an INDEPENDENT commission. From my perspective, as a North Carolinian citizen born and raised, North Carolina is not a true democracy until redistricting is performed by an independent commission.</p>
1579		Aug 4 2017 11:35AM	Susanna Hegner	<p>Please take care to create FAIR districts that allow voters to choose their representatives, not the other way around. Gerrymandering is a cancer that has allowed those with an extremist, regressive ideology to hijack of our legislature. Our "representatives" DO NOT reflect the values of the vast majority of North Carolinians. End gerrymandering once and for all NOW</p>
1580		Aug 4 2017 11:36AM	Rachel Bass	<p>It's time for North Carolina to draw unbiased districts so that its constituents may vote and be represented fairly.</p>
1581		Aug 4 2017 11:38AM	Timothy Moore	<p>Congressional and State Legislative districts should be drawn by an independent, non-partisan board and drawn without regard to race, ethnicity, or the political affiliation of voters.</p>
1582		Aug 4 2017 11:39AM	Ms. Krista Schenck	<p>I see very little reason for the way the districts are currently set up. We need a fair and structured redistricting that doesn't involve a map that looks like spaghetti.</p>
1583		Aug 4 2017 11:39AM	Mr. Dana Moore, III	<p>I think the majority of people or votes should decide. That is what I believe our Democracy is supposed to do. Our Constitution was written to achieve a balance of power. Our country does not have that. It starts at the state level.</p>
1584		Aug 4 2017 11:40AM	Dr. Lydia Kwee	<p>End Gerrm Mandering!</p> <p>I'd like to add my voice to those requesting that NC create a nonpartisan redistricting commission eventually, and start with a nonpartisan, objective approach to these maps in the interim. As a statistician, I've been avidly following the research on defining and creating fair districts based on objective measures, and I believe strongly that we should be leaders in adopting and implementing these approaches that remove the politics from district creation as much as possible. I believe in representative government; I believe we can get back to those best principles; I believe this is best implemented by a group of ethical citizens from across the political spectrum who care deeply about democracy. Our new maps would be a great place to start; there are multiple experts on these issues in NC; I'd beg you to work with these people and inject some intelligence, sanity and humility in the process with this next set of maps. Let's move on from spending so much of our resources litigating these bizarre districts.</p>

1585		Aug 4 2017 11:41AM	Mr. Anthony Miracle	I want to see non-partisan, independent, and ideally algorithmic redistricting based on publicly viewable software. I'm not interested in seeing this toxic game go on where whoever is in power abuses the system to stay that way. As soon as Republicans are out of power, Democrats will do the same thing. End this once and for all while you still can. Do your jobs, and make the system independently represent the people, not just half the people.
1586		Aug 4 2017 11:42AM	Mrs. Mary Ellen Tyrrell	In the spirit of fairness, there needs to be an Independent nonpartisan board to accomplish the redistricting maps. I don't think either political party should have input.
1587		Aug 4 2017 11:43AM	Wynne Cook	Please set up an independent redistricting commission to draw these lines fairly so no one political party has an advantage, and to assure there is no racially drawn barrier to limit or discourage voting as there has been in the past. This will earn the respect and increased participation of your constituents, and the rest of the country on behalf of North Carolina residents. Please do this.
1588		Aug 4 2017 11:43AM	Mrs. Kristina Linkswiler	I implore you to do the right thing, and convene an independent council to contract with an independent computer firm who can write an algorithm to fairly redraw our districts. Equity is the only way forward.
1589		Aug 4 2017 11:43AM	Dr. Elizabeth Sullivan	I moved to Charlotte in 2016 and I am appalled at the unconstitutional gerrymandering that is in place throughout the state. This practice, whether it benefits republicans or democrats is unconstitutional and undermines the basic principles of our democracy. I call on all leaders in the state to make the right choice and enact an independent, neutral, organization to redraw the districts.
1590		Aug 4 2017 11:43AM	Mrs. Julie Colby	Districts need/must be drawn by nonpartisan third parties! No one should get to pick their voters. That is not the kind of freedom our country is founded on. And while I'm at it, voters should not have to register to a party either. You should just plain old resister to vote with no party affiliation what so ever. If the candidate aligns with with my ideals, then they'll get the vote, regardless of party.
1591		Aug 4 2017 11:44AM	Ms. Lee Beasley	This process needs to be taken out of ANY elected person, and be undertaken by a nonpartisan committee. Models from Arizona, California, Montana, Idaho, and Washington state are fair and balanced.
1592		Aug 4 2017 11:44AM	Mr. Edward Irvine	Please create an independent body to redraw districts for the future. The current system does not work fairly. Politicians from the party in power should be drawing maps to control the outcome of elections. That is picking your own voters.It is not fair.
1593		Aug 4 2017 11:45AM	Gretchen Alterowitz	It's most important that redistricting be done in a non-partisan, non-discriminatory manner. The system of leaving district drawing to elected officials obviously leads to partisanship, but it is the system we have, and therefore it's necessary that those in charge of drawing the maps hold themselves to the most rigorous ethical standards. It doesn't matter which party is in power at the moment. All those charged to draw these maps must protect the rights of voters. Each vote should count for the same amount, and districts shouldn't be drawn to influence elections. This is a fundamental, constitutional issue.
1594		Aug 4 2017 11:46AM	Kelly Branson	Voting districts should be representative of the makeup of the voters. Gerrymandering districts specifically to disenfranchise a segment if voters may be legal (anxiously awaiting the SCOTUS ruling on this), but it is UNAMERICAN. "The other side did it" does not make it any less wrong. Look at the Iowa model. Let non-partisans draw the districts. The worm always turns.
1595		Aug 4 2017 11:47AM	Mrs. Kate Tinnan	The maps MUST be drawn by an independent body with only fairness in mind for the voters. The maps should be shared with the electorate for comment. Legislators should see it at the same time the electorate does.
1596		Aug 4 2017 11:47AM	Mrs. Molly Feichter	The current maps need to be totally re-configured to represent a more balanced and equal representation of the people of North Carolina.
1597		Aug 4 2017 11:48AM	Ms. Iselchyresse Israel-Megahan	Gerrymandering is repulsive. Nix it now!
1598		Aug 4 2017 11:49AM	Ms. Julie Knutson	I think it is absolutely critical that redistricting is conducted by a non-partisan, independent group. Redistricting should NEVER be conducted by the elected officials who are impacted by it; there is absolutely no sense in that.
1599		Aug 4 2017 11:50AM	Katrina Kutchko	The state of North Carolina needs non-partisan redistricting. Please draw maps that do not take partisan affiliation into account, and instead use an unbiased algorithm to create fair districts that represent the people of North Carolina.
1600		Aug 4 2017 11:50AM	Dr. Kathleen Mallley	Dear lawmakers, Our government has ruled that our districts have been systemically drawn to favor one party and disenfranchise minority voters. To everyone, this is unacceptable. As an independent, I believe that districts should never favor either party. This, there is no other way to go about this process other than with an independent and bipartisan council. Placing someone on the committee like Tom Hofeller is inappropriate and will cause increased divisiveness in our state. We need to do this right, the first time, and set an example for the rest of the nation and not repeat the same old mistakes. Thank you.

1601		Aug 4 2017 11:50AM	Mr. Jon Ruseell	Districts have a historical tendency to be gerrymandered for the benefit of either a) a political party in power or b) individual actors in power. This is done by drawing maps in a way that minimizes variability in elections. Instead, democracy would be better served by drawing maps in a way that maximizes variability in elections. Draw the maps in a way that gives the highest number of even splits as you can. Or better yet, use the standards adopted by the plaintiffs in Whitford v Gill!
1602		Aug 4 2017 11:52AM	Mr. Robert Hoeckele	All voting district borders should align with existing municipal, county, township, etc. borders. Once that happens there should NEVER be any partisan redistricting. Let Democracy work!
1603		Aug 4 2017 11:55AM	Ms. Jen Cardwell	The United States Constitution gives its citizen the right to vote. Every vote must count and be counted. When votes are politicized by creating districts that make votes null and void, our voting rights are stolen. When there is a breakdown of normal political checks and balances the worst happens. Doesn't matter which political party is doing it. It is just wrong. It is un-American. The current districting in North Carolina is blatantly wrong and corrupt and very embarrassing. If a party cannot win honorably, they certainly deserve to loose on so many levels. If a party has to cheat to win, then they are doing so many things wrong. We have to stand up for what is right and do the right thing in establishing a fair and just redistricting map. Every vote is sacred and must be given an equal status to be given a chance in the system. Let's bring back honor and integrity to North Carolina. Take corrupt politics out of our voting system!
1604		Aug 4 2017 11:56AM	Mr. Bill Doom	We need an independent commission with no elected officials to draw the districts. Those on the commission must agree not to run for state or federal elected office for at least one election cycle. The districts should be drawn to reflect (1) population (2) communities of interest. No demographics should be used to draw borders. This process should be written into law and continue no matter who may be in power at each census
1605		Aug 4 2017 11:58AM	Mr. Matt Siegel	Districts should be drawn by a nonpartisan body of civil servants based on criteria set by statute, with a public tiebreaker via vote. Statute should state that districts are determined / divided / drawn based on population equality and in compliance with the Federal Voting Rights Act as demonstrated by the redistricting simulation launched in August of 2016 by Duke University and Common Cause NC.
1606		Aug 4 2017 11:58AM	Mr. Lynn Daniel	I am tired of having either the Dems or the GOP stack the redistricting in the favor of one party or another. Make the districts as reasonably compact as possible and let the chips fall where they may. Lynn Daniel
1607		Aug 4 2017 11:59AM	Mr. Craig Yoquelet	Do not use any demographic data to make these maps. Don't draw them on partisan lines, racial lines, or anything to divide us. Give us fair maps that give each citizen equal representation and make sense geographically. Looking at a map of our current districts, the gerrymandering is obvious and embarrassing, in addition to being undemocratic. We DEMAND fair maps so everyone had an equal voice!!!
1608		Aug 4 2017 12:00PM	Mr. Clarence Simpson	I strongly support an independent group being used for redistricting
1609		Aug 4 2017 12:00PM	Mr. Chris Vutsinas	Please use independent redistricting. This should be handled via nonpartisan algorithm.
1610		Aug 4 2017 12:00PM	Mrs. Kimberly Naff	I feel as though local cities and their populations should be considered when deciding which group an area needs to be clumped together with. I live in district 11, but I'm 2 houses down from the district 10 line. The people in my town do a lot of our shopping and work primarily in the Hickory area which is district 10. Additionally, the district office should probably get a shout out that they should be centrally located in the districts. I'm nearly 2 hours from my district office, but less than 20 minutes away from the district 10 office.
1611		Aug 4 2017 12:00PM	Lynne Necrason	I feel strongly that redistricting must be done in NC independent of politicians. Please make sure an independent non-partisan commission is established to redraw our maps!
1612		Aug 4 2017 12:00PM	Ms. Suzi Leonard	Our Declaration of Independence calls for the governance of us by representatives "deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed." This does not mean the said "Governed" should be corralled in abnormally strewn districts that benefit one ideology or another. This does not mean that clumped voting blocs should be designed to reflect preference to a majority or minority race, or one religion over another, or one skin color, sexual preference, language skill, et al. It means that we, the People, each and every one of us should have the ability to participate fairly in the selection of our Governance. When some clever-headed gerrymanderer devised a way to cheat from this fair participation, we lost our participation in a fair Democracy. We vote without impact. Our ideas are muted and our freedoms challenged. I suggest we find a computer system that will design the most compact, contiguous districts possible. Take human avarice and greed out of our district drawing and I predict bipartisanship may unravel toward an open and peaceful exchange of ideas for the improvement of our grand and beautiful country.
1613		Aug 4 2017 12:01PM	Ms. Alanna Hibbard	We need an independent, completely transparent council to do this work. I'm really tired of NC being in the news for gerrymandering!

1614		Aug 4 2017 12:01PM	Mr. Greg McBryde	The redistricting should be taken out of the hands of any political party, but should instead be developed by an independent, non-partisan committee.
1615		Aug 4 2017 12:02PM	Mrs. Kristine Barberio	North Carolina was a diverse state leading the way in compromise and bipartisanship UNTIL gerrymandering destroyed not only our reputation, but our way of life. We are a diverse state that can have fairly elected officials representing ALL of our state. Redistricting should be conducted by a bipartisan outside group of concerned people who use a mathematical formula to achieve fairness. There is a way to make this process balanced and help our state to return to what it was. I would love to share my ideas on math driving our redistricting. Thank you!
1616		Aug 4 2017 12:05PM	Ms. Carrie Archer	A computer program using an algorithm with census data and geographic data should be used to avoid the temptation for ANY party to use party, race, economic or other factors when creating districts so that the legitimacy of elections can never be questioned on the grounds of gerrymandering.
1617		Aug 4 2017 12:07PM	Mr. Jeffrey Mason	Redistributing should be done by a non-partisan commission and not by the General Assembly. We need districts where there is either a balance by party registration or by economics so that everyone's vote counts. The current process and results are destroying democracy.
1618		Aug 4 2017 12:08PM	Mr. Jason Burdette	Please move toward an independent entity creating maps. Partisan gerrymandering (both Reps and Dems) has got to stop. North Carolina deserves better than this.
1619		Aug 4 2017 12:08PM	Kelli Early	As a resident of Buncombe County, which has been instructed to create new districts in accordance with S285, I believe that independent commissions made up of ordinary North Carolina residents and non-partisan experts in redistricting is needed to draw lines that avoid racial and partisan gerrymandering. I also believe that proposed maps should not continue to confirmation nor be passed without ample public input, where citizens rejections of districts means the GA will heed the comments, and not ignore them. I have canvassed in two counties in North Carolina, Haywood and Buncombe, through Democracy NC and citizens wants fair maps that do not spilt neighbors based on race or party affiliation and districts that are contiguous with county lines where possible. Over 14,000 North Carolinians have signed Democracy NC's petition for fair maps, and thousands more have joined Common Cause's mission to end gerrymandering, use these resources to create a system that disavows racism and partisan politics. We will be watching.
1620		Aug 4 2017 12:09PM	Mr. Keith Richter	Please create a permanent, non-partisan panel to conduct all future legislative redistricting.
1621		Aug 4 2017 12:09PM	Jennifer Libby	Districts should be by county. North Carolina deserves to move into the 21st Century not held back by Bubba who couldn't get elected without cheating.
1622		Aug 4 2017 12:10PM	Mr. John Storta	<p>According to the NC Board of Elections, 39% of registered voters in the state are Democrats. 30% are Republican. The remaining 31% are unaffiliated. Based on this distribution, the NC House should be comprised of about 65 Democrats and 55 Republicans. This is far from the reality.</p> <p>Today there are only 46 Democrats in the House and 74 Republicans. Despite only 30% of the state's voters being registered as Republicans, that party makes up nearly 62% of the representatives. Think about that. Republicans are 30% of the population, but have 62% of the representation. It does not take a degree in statistics to realize that something is seriously wrong.</p> <p>That is the problem statement. Now the question is, what can be done about it? I am personally an advocate for taking human bias out of the equation. There are computer algorithms that automatically draw the district lines with an aim for compactness. These algorithms have no human bias and lead to a distribution of representation that more closely mirrors the population.</p> <p>Some claim that these algorithms have their own flaws. I would argue that they cannot be any worse than what we have today – as much as 20% of the population that is not being represented.</p> <p>The ultimate goal of any redistricting should be to ensure that the representation in the NC house closely reflects the demographics of the state. I am not saying that it should always match exactly, but what we have today is significantly out of balance and needs to be</p>
1623		Aug 4 2017 12:11PM	Ms. JoAnne Hinson	Please have an independent company draw the lines, the only way to change these problems and have no one to complain on either side.
1624		Aug 4 2017 12:13PM	Thomas Viemont	Our state needs non-partisan redistricting. Neither party should control the process because partisan control got us here.
1625		Aug 4 2017 12:14PM	Mrs. Katherine Barnes	An independent, non-partisan commity should redraw the lines. Both sides have used gerrymandering to skew election results, and it's time to end all of that and listen to the voters of North Carolina, fairly.
1626		Aug 4 2017 12:14PM	Ms. Donna Warshaw	It's time to end the policy of trying to undermine democracy by gerrymandering. It undermines equal representation, it is unconstitutional and you are sworn to uphold the laws and values of a democracy. Make sure that race is not a factor in your maps. It must be bipartisan or it will not be fair. Stop trying to suppress the will of the people

1627		Aug 4 2017 12:15PM	Pamela Buchanan	It is long past time to make the legislative districts fair and drawn to ensure all voters are given the opportunity for their vote to count. I am so disappointed in the Republican controlled legislator in this state.
1628		Aug 4 2017 12:16PM	Jennifer Viemont	We need non-partisan redistricting. An independent group should make the boundaries without regard to party affiliation, race, income, or other discriminatory factors.
1629		Aug 4 2017 12:16PM	Edna Azeem	Gerrymandering our state is not representation. Every day that these districts remain, we are faced with taxation without representation. Racial, and political Gerrymandering will not serve our states best interest.
1630		Aug 4 2017 12:16PM	Ms. Anne Toewe	Gerrymandering in NC MUST stop. Please redraw our Congressional districts in a sensible, objective manner, in optimally compact and equal population districts utilizing census block boundaries. We should all be represented where we live, work, worship and play without regard to which party won in the last election cycle.
1631		Aug 4 2017 12:17PM	Mrs. Michele Wilson	I deplore the practice of redistricting for the purpose of controlling the outcome of elections for control of our state. I am a registered Democrat. We should have two candidates for each position from which to choose in the election. Power grabbing by drawing the maps for districts to the benefit of one or the other party does not encourage, but does in fact, discourage eligible candidates from entering the race. This is cowardly at best and self-serving at the worst. I do not believe either party, nor the NCGA should have the 'job' of drawing the maps. I believe they should be out sourced to an outside, non-partisan entity.
1632		Aug 4 2017 12:22PM	Mr. Granger Roseberry	I am sick and tired of unfair voting districts! Enough already! Everyone, but YOU sees what your doing. It has been proven unconstitutional by the US Suprene court. Please take this opportunity to make things fair to all people. You can do this!
1633		Aug 4 2017 12:22PM	Mr. Christian Massi	I believe that both parties, but most recently the Republican Party, are guilty of partisanship redistricting. It's time that human bias and error are taken out of the equation. We should be using a program that supports a fair map drawing method that can take into account all resident data. I do not want my tax money going to pay for legal defense against anymore battles with federal courts over whether or not mapping is unconstitutional. The last decision was made that the districts were drawn unconstitutionally. Make it fair by removing partisanship. Either an algorithm or a non-partisan committee assigned.
1634		Aug 4 2017 12:23PM	Mr. Andrew Scharfenberg	Redistricting should be done by a non-parisan committee. Either political party is bound to make the maps undemocratic. Please do not disenfranchise your constituents and do the right thing. Creat a non partisan group to fix the maps.
1635		Aug 4 2017 12:23PM	Mr. Tyler Hodges	It makes no sense to have the people in power mapping the districts. It needs to be done objectively by an independent entity. That is the only way to protect our democracy and ensure fairness in elections.
1636		Aug 4 2017 12:23PM	Mr. Thomas Beerbower	As a former constituent of NC's 12th district (the nation's most gerrymandered Congressional district), I've seen the severe impact of gerrymandering firsthand. The GOP packed my district (along with the 1st and 4th districts, also in the nation's top 10 gerrymandered districts) with Democrats, ensuring they would win there and lose in the neighboring Republican-weighted districts. This deprives the state's voters of a reflective number of representatives that honor their beliefs and ideals. We need an impartial, nonpartisan third party to redraw the maps, rather than Tom Hofeller, the GOP mapmaking consultant who helped draw the maps that the US Supreme Court ruled unconstitutional.
1637		Aug 4 2017 12:24PM	Mr. Heath Baker	I don't believe that politicians should be the ones responsible for redistricting. Gerrymandering terrible in nature and it's appalling that it exists, especially to the degree in which it has risen in North Carolina. I believe that it should be done by an unbiased third party (with no ties to money whatsoever to either political party) and then a council should be held to ensure that the redistricting effort is fair and unbiased. I'm registered as unaffiliated with either party, though with more Democratic party leanings. I'm appalled that either party would attempt to sway their votes by means of unfair districts.(Yes, I'm aware that both parties have contributed to the current state of things) I urge you to reconsider the redistricting efforts, and make a fair attempt at making the voters' representation is fair. Thank you.
1638		Aug 4 2017 12:24PM	Ms. Francine DiMicele	We should redraw the improperly drawn districts which NC has in place today. The redistricting should NOT rely on racial gerrymandering when drawing the state's congressional districts. Our process should remain non-partisan and reflect our NC values for our congressional districts.
1639		Aug 4 2017 12:27PM	Mrs. Carrie Banks	We need a non-partisan panel in charge of redistricting. No more gerrymandering!

1640		Aug 4 2017 12:30PM	Ms. Regina Pearson	Partisan gerrymandering is unfortunately a big part of politics. But everyone on the redistricting committee has a moral obligation to end racial gerrymandering. It disenfranchises already disenfranchised voters. It dissuades the now largest voting block from voting and perpetuates the notion that voting doesn't matter. You all work for us. We ought to be choosing out legislators, not the other way around. There will be consequences for those who do not support fair maps and a fair redistricting process, especially the Democrats on the committee.
1641		Aug 4 2017 12:30PM	Ashley Hunsberger	Legislators should _not_ be the ones to redraw district maps. This should be only be done by a completely non-partisan, unbiased group.
1642		Aug 4 2017 12:31PM	William Cramer	<p>Whatever method is chosen, the state legislature and state delegation to the US House need to be proportionately representative to the votes cast in the state. It is so obviously corrupt for either party to have a 10 to 3 lead in a state that runs so tight in state wide races.</p> <p>An independent redistricting commision would be a good start.</p>
1643		Aug 4 2017 12:31PM	Mr. Cameron Hunt	This redistricting process should be fair and bipartisan! Please no more illegal gerrymandering. We hail this country as the champion of democracy, yet we seek to uphold partisan power above all. Legislative leaders, please seek whatever integrity you have in you and do this process in such a way
1644		Aug 4 2017 12:31PM	Patricia Anderson	An outside nonpartisan company/committee should handle the redistricting. We obviously cannot trust the politicians. We would not be in this mess to begin with.
1645		Aug 4 2017 12:31PM	Dori Schoonmaker	NON-PARTISAN REDISTRICTING!! Independent redistricting with no heed given to any partisan politics. The only way to have legitimate government is with fair and impartial districts leading to fair and innartial elections.
1646		Aug 4 2017 12:32PM	Ms. Cynthia Guido	We need fair districts that reflect the total population of the state not just one party. Redistricting should avoid racial and partisan gerrymandering! It is not in the best interest of NC and it's citizens to reproduce partisan districts as they have in the past. Thank you for the opportunity to have input in this important issue
1647		Aug 4 2017 12:33PM	Ms. Rebekah and Webb	Please create an independent bipartisan commission for redistricting.
1648		Aug 4 2017 12:34PM	Mr. John Blanton	<p>As a born and raised resident of North Carolina, I am appalled at how the NC GOP has gerrymandered and made our state a laughing stock. You need look no further than the last interation of maps for NC's 6th District currently being representd by US House Rep Mark Walker. That district is one of the most blatantly gerrymandered districts I've ever seen in my life. Take a look at it and see if you can't see the deliberate was the district is drawn to avoid both Greensboro and Burlington. Do you see it? And guess who lives in Greensboro and Burlington? Black people.</p> <p>If the NC Legislature can't reach a consensus and allow a non-partisan party, hell even a computer that uses an algorithm to simply provide calculated/compact/easily identifiable and distributed districts, then you all should lose your jobs. You've ruined this state, and made it one of the worst in the country and the people of NC are tired of it.</p> <p>DO YOUR JOBS.</p>
1649		Aug 4 2017 12:34PM	Ms. Catherine Mason	The state's district lines need to be redistricted to rectify the current instances of gerrymandering that are prevalent through out the state. Gerrymandering is an illegal act which undermines the power of the people and our values as a democracy, and therefore these unfairly drawn lines should be eliminated and redrawn fairly.
1650		Aug 4 2017 12:35PM	Kate Leckonby	This should be done by an independent agency.
1651		Aug 4 2017 12:37PM	Mr. Garrett Herzfeld	<p>Although I still love my hometown city of Charlotte and our beautiful state of North Carolina as whole, we have become a national and world embarrassment due to the blatantly partisan techniques used by both parties (although one much more severely than the other) focused on grabbing power in ways that undermine our American values.</p> <p>I call for the establishment of some kind of independent or bipartisan council to determine how new voting districts should be drawn. These districts should accurately and fairly represent their residents and have nothing to do with stacking votes for either party. It is time to stop the implausible drawing of districts while using an excuse of a "community of interest" they share when it is obvious they do not and are in fact made in order to keep a certain party in power. Let a computer algorithm or other system fairly designate the districts.</p> <p>I plead with you to bring North Carolina out being what other states use as an example of what NOT to do and how NOT to be. Thank you.</p>
1652		Aug 4 2017 12:37PM	Lyn Sadler	<p>Get politicians out of the mapping. Let bipartisan committees do the final adjustments, after computers determine best balance of lines. Elections should be in the hands of the voters.</p> <p>Do the right thing. Stop cheating North Carolina voters.</p>

1653		Aug 4 2017 12:37PM	Ms. JULIA THORP	I am writing to encourage all legislators to appoint a non-partisan committee to redraw our state's district. I do not believe politicians from either side (but yes, quite frankly the GOP especially) are able to resist the urge to keep their ambitions in check when it comes to determining who and where citizens vote. Please take the temptation out of their hands completely and let an independent committee free NC from it's current unfair and undemocratic maps. Thank you.
1654		Aug 4 2017 12:37PM	Mr. William Worley	It's time for our elected representatives to put an end to redistricting based on gaining a political advantage. Make common sense, practical districts as much as possible. Adhere to the principles of compactness, contiguity, equal population, and preservation of existing communities. Regardless of whether you think it's constitutionally allowed, stop using race, gender, sexual orientation, religious affiliation, income, or registered political party as criteria in ANY way. Do it right and do it fair. Stop thinking of your political futures rather than your service to the people of this state.
1655		Aug 4 2017 12:37PM	Vicki Rowan	Districts should be compact and fit county lines to the greatest degree possible. We need an independent commission. Neither Dem nor Republican lawmakers can be trusted to draw unbiased districts. The commission should include close to half Dems, close to half Republican and a couple of tie breaker unaffiliated. Even better follow the current voter demographics and have 1/3 Dem, 1/3 Republicans and 1/3 unaffiliated.
1656		Aug 4 2017 12:38PM	Mr. Kevin McNiff	This should be a non-partisan independent commission in charge of redistricting. Politicians in power have no business drawing maps for their own elections. time and again it has been proven that they can not separate the good of the constituents and the desires of the people over their own political career. Age, sex, sexual, education, nationality, religion, and voting histories should NOT be taken into account when drawing maps. the map isn't to ensure your victory it is to ensure a representation based on the wishes of the people and provide a government that mimics that. your gerrymandering has broken that core concept out of greed and lust for power. It's immoral and sure as hell isn't Christian by any means as many of you all claim to be. Maps should be based on the population of an area and should be compact and not some arbitrary shape reaching half way across the state to fit as many people that tend to vote in one manner in one area to minimize or maximize the power of their vote as you see fit. In short, yet again this is an issue that should be handled by an independent nonpartisan commission and not sitting elected officials
1657		Aug 4 2017 12:39PM	Mr. James Bazan	Voters are supposed to pick elected officials. Elected officials are not supposed to pick voters. In all likelihood, 2020 will be a wave election. Your best chance of retaining representation is to create fair, representative districts and then stand on the principle that every vote should count the same. I live in very safe GOP district. Given economics and demographics, it would remain so (and it has) even with the Democrats in charge. I do not think my vote, or that of any North Carolinian should be subject to the petty ambitions of some current or future politician. Elections are supposed to be the mechanisms by which voters provide term limits. Let us do our jobs.
1658		Aug 4 2017 12:40PM	Mr. Taylor Jones	Create a non-partisan redistricting committee based on logical, statistical boundaries.
1659		Aug 4 2017 12:41PM	Mr. Corey Mercy	I would strongly encourage that the redistricting in NC be completed such that each County and the legally defined boundaries of each respective County become the new districts for NC. No other means of defining districts outside of this already established definition within the state would satisfy a non-partial, non-partisan approach. Respectfully, Corey
1660		Aug 4 2017 12:42PM	Chad Stinner	I've been doing data analysis for years. Simply put the only politically neutral method of redistricting is to use algorithms based on population density. The algorithm should not take into account anything else. This makes the districts truly representative of the people of those areas.
1661		Aug 4 2017 12:43PM	Mrs. Audrey Stelloh	Districts should be compact and not have any "arms" or "legs" or other protrusions.
1662		Aug 4 2017 12:43PM	Mr. Rick Hoffman	Please redraw districts that represent the population of the district, based on race.
1663		Aug 4 2017 12:43PM	Jacob Sussman	Please show leadership and draw these maps apolitically. The partisanship is outrageous. We need competitive districts.
1664		Aug 4 2017 12:44PM	Robyn Taylor	Please turn over the actual redistricting to an independent, non-partisan committee and make sure the entire process is completely transparent. Having actually put voice to the fact that this recent redistricting was done to impede Democrats and minorities from voting has demonstrated that the GOP currently running our state is incapable of fairness and should not be allowed to participate.
1665		Aug 4 2017 12:45PM	Mr. Ray Boling	Please draw maps that avoid racial discrimination or political bias. Use contiguous county boundaries where possible. Show your maps to all legislators and the public now. Above all avoid political bias. Obey the NC and Federal Constitutions.

1666		Aug 4 2017 12:45PM	Joni Chastain	Those who serve in an elected capacity should have nothing to do with drawing electoral maps. They should be computer generated with the sole purpose of equitable representation for all citizens and no consideration for party affiliation.
1667		Aug 4 2017 12:46PM	Ms. Erica Eason	Your re-election hinges on this redistricting in more ways than you might realize. If these maps are still gerrymandered to give the GOP an unfair advantage in 2018, we will ensure that no one that is currently in office remains there. Democracy depends upon representation, and NONE OF US are properly represented by gerrymandered maps. These maps should accurately reflect the constituency. Representation should be 49% Republican and 46% Democrat AT WORST, as that is the split represented by the 2017 presidential election. Anything less accurate than that is utterly unacceptable, and we will gladly run entire campaigns in 2018 on your inability to treat us fairly.
1668		Aug 4 2017 12:46PM	Mr. Edward McDonald	Redistricting should be done by a nonpartisan group and not by our legislatures who are gerrymandering the districts to the advantage of the party in power.
1669		Aug 4 2017 12:47PM	Catherine Bruce	Redistricting should be a non-partisan issue. It is fundamentally undemocratic for legislators (regardless of their affiliation) to draw up districts that determine whether they and their colleagues will stay in power. I encourage the committee to make North Carolina a state to be proud of again by giving this power to a fully independent, non-partisan commission. Let's move North Carolina towards a more fair, representative system of redistricting.
1670		Aug 4 2017 12:49PM	Mr. Ryan Gimson	The time is far past due to create an non-partisan independent council to draw voting districts. Even if any party managed to create unbiased districts, which is highly unlikely, there will always be questions as to their integrity. The only reason to oppose an independent council is to create political bias. We should be leading the country here, not having the SCOTUS ruling that our districts are illegal.
1671		Aug 4 2017 12:50PM	Mrs. Shannon Ramaswami	I think an independent council needs to be set up to re-draw the districts. I do not trust our current legislature AT ALL (my distrust is based on attending a CPE event and knowing they were grossly misrepresenting their positions on taxation based on my personal experience). Further, politicians only incentive when drawing the maps is to help themselves get elected. I don't support that for either party. The we are supposed to have a government for the people - not for political ideology or for the corporations. I would like it if the general assembly used the method provided by by bipartisan panel of retired NC judges. They have a good methodology and them being from NC actually have NC interests at heart. Thank you for your consideration.
1672		Aug 4 2017 12:50PM	Ms. Patty Wike	Nothing makes mr more angry than gerrymandering. Do it by population and as much as possible by county. If there are any irregular borders, iust assume that the vote is being manipulated.
1673		Aug 4 2017 12:51PM	Mr. Richard Trotter	I strongly support non-partisan redistricting. Voters should have the opportunity to choose their representatives, and candidates should be required to persuade the voters for their vote. Gerrymandering is un-democratic, as it too often results in the election of representatives that are not truly representative. Moreover, gerrymandering contributes to voter disengagement, by reinforcing the perception that the system is rigged. -Rick Trotter
1674		Aug 4 2017 12:51PM	Darla Knopp	The simplest plan and one that is not subject to the whims of the party of power is one that is delineated by county, municipal, or township boundaries with straight line divisions when needed to group those districts together which lack sufficient populations to stand alone. These non-partisan districts should then be set by state statute as not being changed for a stated period, i.e. 50 years.
1675		Aug 4 2017 12:52PM	Ms. Laurie Meilleur	Let's keep NC out of the news and out of the courts and have these maps drawn by an independent party or panel. It is time to leave the political gamesmanship of gerrymandering in the past where it belongs. As elected officials, your job is to serve us, not usurp us. Thank you.
1676		Aug 4 2017 12:54PM	Laura Burke	We need these districts to be drawn independently by a nonpartisan body.
1677		Aug 4 2017 12:54PM	Mrs. Tammy Pritchett	Let all district lines be drawn by an independent entity. Only then can the real desires of North Carolinians be known.

1678		Aug 4 2017 12:55PM	Ms. Tinisha Shaw	Political party affiliation should not be considered in the drawing of legislative districts. To stay true to the Constitution, which has been the argument of the NC Republican party, representation should be based on the population. This will create legislators truly accountable to their constituents rather than political party. It would also create a balance of voices and maintain checks and balances in the state government. I strongly disagree with the present super majority in the General Assembly. It resembles a banana republic that only represents and implements the political views of white male ultra-conservatives. No one branch of government should be unchecked. The political bloc that voted for Gov.Cooper, which was the majority of North Carolinians, are being denied our voice. Please consider the future of continuing democracy rather than just maintaining Republican power now. Because history has shown the tides will surely turn. Thank you.
1679		Aug 4 2017 12:55PM	Susanne Robicsek	Neither party, be it Republicans or Democrats, have any business drawing these maps. An independent non partisan firm should be utilized to create impartial districts. Since that is not an option at this moment, Regional districts using county lines as border should be used, and there should not be "snaking" to gather and gerrymander voters for racial or party gains. Neither party affiliation of voters nor race of voters should ever be a factor in determining district lines. I would applaud lawmakers' efforts to enshrine that principle into law, and will fight for that principal in the next and future elections if not followed in this effort.
1680		Aug 4 2017 12:56PM	Steven Monteith	This should be a process that is completely handled by a third party that has no political ties to either party nor has any political gain. Let the people have fair and representative districts.
1681		Aug 4 2017 12:56PM	Mr. Roy Smith Jr	I join with the majority of the people of North Carolina in demanding that the legislature remove itself entirely from the redistricting process and hand it over to a panel of respected individuals, evenly split between both parties, who do not have a vested interest in keeping their legislative seats and who we all can trust to fairly apportion North Carolina's legislative maps. THANK YOU!
1682		Aug 4 2017 12:57PM	Ms. Barbara Spradling	Both Democrats and Republicans have drawn districts to intentionally control outcomes of elections and ensure power. It is time for that practice to stop. Legislators serve the people of NC and must ensure the people are equally represented. It would be a significant positive reflection on the Republican party if they are ones to STOP gerrymandering and do what is right by the people of NC. Let democracy work as it was intended without manipulation PLEASE!!!!
1683		Aug 4 2017 12:57PM	Dr. Eric Monson	Please set up an independent committee for redistricting, so no matter which party is in power we have a separate, neutral body to redraw our district maps! Thank you.
1684		Aug 4 2017 12:59PM	Eduardo Capote	I recommend that the GA use an independent non partisan group to complete the redistricting process. This would help ensure a balanced and accurate representation of the demographics of our great state. Any attempts to gerrymander our legislative districts should be avoided.
1685		Aug 4 2017 1:01PM	Mr. Garrett Dyer	Please take politics out of voting districts, redraw them based on census data. Gerrymandering is a toxicity that needs to be eliminated as a factor to how we determine who will represent the citizens.
1686		Aug 4 2017 1:01PM	Jean Dasnoit	First let me say that redrawing districts to improve any parties election outcome is totally reprehensible and should carry a mandatory prison sentence. That neing said districts need to be drawn allowing for the most balanced mix of parties. Whether that is do e using a computer program based on registered voters or manually; it needs to be fair and balanced.
1687		Aug 4 2017 1:01PM	Ms. Christen Franks	The time has come to rise above partisan squabbling and short-sighted political agendas. Neither party is capable of drawing impartial & representative districts. Please take this opportunity to raise North Carolina up as a shining example of how fair governance should be by creating an impartial, politically bi-partisan redistricting plan. We know that creating districts that seek to disenfranchise is wrong, no matter what side of the political aisle we're sitting on. Don't let this opportunity for greatness pass by. Thank you.
1688		Aug 4 2017 1:02PM	Laura Paynter	Because neither party can be trusted to fairly divide up the districts I beg of you to appoint a nonpartisan commission to use computer generated modeling to find the most balanced districts. We have the chance to make NC a model for the nation. Let's give the nc citizens something to be proud of!
1689		Aug 4 2017 1:03PM	Mrs. Ruth Cole	We must have a nonpartisan committee. One person-One Vote.
1690		Aug 4 2017 1:03PM	Ms. Laurin Kier	I realize both political parties are guilty of gerrymandering. But regardless of whom is doing it, it's SO unfair to voters of this state, my native state. PLEASE have a non-partisan committee draw these new maps. Make them as equal as possible in number of voters represented, and then let the voting chips fall where they may. Rigging the system, as gerrymandering so effectively does, is not what democracy is about. Each vote counting as much as any other vote is what we should strive for.

1691		Aug 4 2017 1:04PM	Meriel Goodwin	<p>I am for a strictly non partisan approach to redistricting in North Carolina. I feel that in previous times, too much consideration has been given to the party affiliations of voters in drawing the lines.</p> <p>And: when I look at the map of districts in North Carolina, I see that they are all spread out in various directions, not following logical lines of where people actually live as a unified entity.</p> <p>Please give these factors your consideration today,</p> <p>Sincerely yours</p>
1692		Aug 4 2017 1:04PM	Mrs. Tamara Henderson	I would like to make comments regarding fair re redistricting policies
1693		Aug 4 2017 1:04PM	Mr. Richard Sterling	Redistricting should be done by computer based algorithms that look primarily into having equally populated districts. If multiple maps can be drawn this way then the secondary consideration should be clustering of cohesive geographic areas. Other demographics such as party affiliation, income, race and religion should be excluded from any consideration
1694		Aug 4 2017 1:05PM	Ms. Teresa Outlaw	Please allow a bipartisan commission redraw our legislative maps. We need to move forward as a state. Not backward.
1695		Aug 4 2017 1:05PM	Candy Kennedy	Independent drawing of the map is the only fair way to have this done.
1696		Aug 4 2017 1:06PM	Mr. Robert Cole	We must have one person- one vote by a nonpartisan committee.
1697		Aug 4 2017 1:06PM	Dr. Darlene Dockery	Kinston should not be chopped into a million tiny pieces as it is! The entire Lenoir county should be one district --or at least the city.
1698		Aug 4 2017 1:06PM	Andrew Pardue	<p>North Carolinians deserve fair and balanced districts that represent the diversity of constituents who go to the polls. Its abundantly clear that the current legislature took advantage of redistricting and gerrymandering in order to expand their own political power and misrepresent the people of North Carolina. I live in a rural area of primarily white voters and I can tell you from the many conversations I have had that we are disgusted and embarrassed at the mess and national laughing stock NC politics has become. In a state that is known for being almost half and half democrat and Republican it makes no sense for the state to hava a Republican supermajority. Everyone should have an equal chance to make their vote count and I expect this serious and dangerous precedent to be corrected, the integegrity of our voting system to be corrected, and for this to never happen again, by either side of the political spectrum. We have a right to choose the candidates that represent us. Candidates and political parties should not get to choose their voters.</p>
1699		Aug 4 2017 1:07PM	Mr. Edward Martin	I ask that the redistricting process be taken out of the hands of the legislators and given to an independent group. There is no reason why we should allow our elected officials to choose their voters.
1700		Aug 4 2017 1:07PM	Dr. Bill Row	After illegally gerrymandering the districts to diminish the voting power of African Americans, the NC Republican Party is perceived as a party of racist white men. Especially since those involved in making the gerrymandering map have been asked again to assist with the new map. Should you want to change this perception, you need to re-draw the map with a new committee that was not affiliated with the previous group that illegally drew the first map. Know that because of this gerrymandering all of you are not legally what the people wanted.
1701		Aug 4 2017 1:08PM	Dr. Vicki Parker	<p>The districts should be made by a nonpartisan private group using computers that use allegorical computations. It should then be checked by the courts. Get partisan politics out of our voting - meaning they shouldn't gerrymander and pick their constituents. Work toward democracy not partisan politics.</p>
1702		Aug 4 2017 1:09PM	Mrs. Kelly Armstrong	<p>A bipartisan effort needs to be made..</p> <p>With an independent review.</p>
1703		Aug 4 2017 1:09PM	Mrs. Karen Taylor	It is an affront to democracy that any legislator is allowed to shape policy and cast votes while serving in an unconstitutionally drawn district. If the members of the House and Senate do not represent the people of North Carolina fairly, our government is a sham. I demand you comply in full with the court's instructions and implement a non-partisan district plan immediately
1704		Aug 4 2017 1:10PM	Dr. Gary Smith	<p>In redistricting please follow these criteria. Make districts compact and contiguous. Ensure that you follow state and federal law in drawing them. Draw them without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout and where the incumbent lives.</p> <p>Drawing districts with bias (partisan, racial, etc) dis-empowers voters and increases voter distrust of government.</p> <p>The recent past drawings were both racially and partisan biased and led to districts that were neither compact and contiguous. This has been a major embarrassment to me as a citizen and voter in NC.</p>
1705		Aug 4 2017 1:11PM	Ms. Bonnie Burns	Although I no longer have school aged children I do have multiple grandchildren who all attend Randolph County Schools. I am concerned they might be penalized with less school funding unless the districts are reviewed and changed according to the children and not according to race. The right to public education should be shared by all . We pay taxes to assure that right . Give all children a chance- not just the ones you as a Committee like. Thanks for reading.

1706		Aug 4 2017 1:11PM	Mary Gardner	Both parties should relinquish control of the resisteicjng to an independent panel.
1707		Aug 4 2017 1:12PM	Ms. Rebekah Radisch	Just divvy up the map in an objective and rational manner. It should be logical...there are 100 counties; give two counties to each rep...we save money by only needing 50 reps instead of 120....or do 1 rep per county and we still save with 20 fewer reps. Not hard and it's fair.
1708		Aug 4 2017 1:13PM	Ms. Cynthia McClelland	To date, redistricting is just plain wrong! An independent group really should do this, given the inability of NC to do it properly. You could start by using county lines, then adjusting for population differences and number of districts by using geographic boundaries, such as rivers, lakes, interstates, town or housing development boundaries to the extent possible. Little "islands", "rivers" etc in other districts -- aren't you embarrassed? The voting public understandably thinks that their elected "representatives" are for 1st - personal reelection, 2nd party - and last of all representing the people in a fair and honest way.
1709		Aug 4 2017 1:13PM	Francis DNardo	Recent developments in Redistricting software has led to free software that eliminates gerrymandering attempts. It uses algorithms that focus on size, shape and count rather than population demographics. This is good replacement for the current redistricting programs that can be used to gerrymander, if desired. Here's an example of one of the new programs. http://autoredistrict.org/
1710		Aug 4 2017 1:14PM	Mrs. Jaime English	Please use a nonpartisan committee and computer algorithm to redistribute fairly. https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2014/06/03/this-computer-programmer-solved-gerrymandering-in-his-spare-time/?utm_term=.5b6a34ch33f1
1711		Aug 4 2017 1:14PM	Melissa Thurston	The Legislative Redistricting Committee should seek an outside opinion for the redrawing of North Carolina's direct map. This should be a team of unaffiliated, non-biased political science experts. No individual affiliated with a party, Democratic or Republican, should contribute to redrawing the district map in order to avoid bias.
1712		Aug 4 2017 1:15PM	Mr. Andrew Slaughter	Legislators need to GET OUT of the business of drawing legislative districts. It is clear that there is too much incentive to draw them to the benefit of whatever political party happens to be in power, to the detriment of the citizens of NC. Our representative republic is no longer "representative" at all if the majority of people's electoral votes do not even effect the outcome of elections due to gerrymandered districts. With gerrymandered super-majorities in the legislature, there is no incentive to compromise, hold open committee hearings, have debates or use good practice in law-making. NC must create an INDEPENDENT Electoral Commission using non-partisan algorithms to create fair districts. Each district must reflect roughly equal numbers of citizens, and NOT be based on race or party affiliations. Only by doing this process, can we have fair representation in NC and a chance for representatives to be truly accountable to citizens. The US Supreme Court has ruled that our 2012 districts are unconstitutional. How can our laws be upheld and stand the test of time if our representation itself is unconstitutional ?!! And now we have the same legislators who devised those unfair districts who are in the process of making new ones?!! That is unacceptable and completely dishonest on its face. Our legislators know what they SHOULD do now, they only need to show that they WILL do the right thing.
1713		Aug 4 2017 1:15PM	Mrs. Kay Zimmerman	Our NC legistalors have dragged their feet long enough. Not only has the majority party continued to gerrymander districts to favor Republicans, but even in the face of court orders and rulings, they have dragged their feet, refusing to follow court-ordered directives to redraw voting districts in a more equitable way. Over the past week
1714		Aug 4 2017 1:15PM	Jason Overstreet	If the only way you can win is by cheating, you don't deserve to be in the race. Use a non-partisan algoirithm to draw the districts.
1715		Aug 4 2017 1:16PM	Ms. Mary Price	No more cheating. Have an independent, non-partisan group draw the maps and there will be no issues as to how fair and equal they are. Do it now!
1716		Aug 4 2017 1:16PM	Mrs. Sarah Midgett	I feel that gerrymandering is an affront to democracy. A non-partisan, non-political committee should be responsible for drawing districts, not the politicians who have skin in the game and are trying to maximize their power and control.
1717		Aug 4 2017 1:17PM	Mrs. Anne Stark	Elected officials should not be involved in the redistricting. You are inherently biased. Hire an independent non-partisan organization or find a computer algorithm. No one who is currently serving should be involved in the nrocess.
1718		Aug 4 2017 1:17PM	Ms. Carol Gray-Adler	Redistricting should be impartial and non-partisan. I support computer generated maps that group voters numerically regardless of political affiliation.

1719		Aug 4 2017 1:17PM	Ms. Brooke Csuka	<p>Dear intern reading these comments: Hi! Thanks for all you do. I hope you will share my concerns with your supervisors.</p> <p>I'm a born and bred North Carolinian. I grew up in a conservative household, with Rush Limbaugh blaring in the background, and I married a man who considered himself a Republican until recently, when the GA started legislating on social concerns instead of fiscal ones. I've always been surrounded by conservatives, though I've never considered myself one--grow up in poverty, and you'll understand why any child in that situation could be dissuaded from that.</p> <p>I've lived in two foreign countries, and those experiences abroad were enough to show me how great things can be, if we govern ourselves morally, democratically, and fairly. Every human in the state deserves a fair and balanced election. Each of us deserves to have our vote count as much as our neighbor's. Politicians should not have the power to draw their own districts. Doing so to control the outcome of elections is despotic. Tyrannical. Anti-democratic. Anything less than an independent committee redrawing these lines is an act of authoritarian governing.</p> <p>I hope you will do the right thing and find an independent committee to redraw our district lines. Our elected officials owe it to the citizens of North Carolina to set things right. Thank you for listening to my concerns.</p>
1720		Aug 4 2017 1:19PM	Mrs. Hannah Premaratne	North Carolinians need to see the districts redrawn by a fair bipartisan committee. If the process is being done correctly, then neither side should have a problem playing as a team. Constituents will be watching to make sure the map looks fair this time.
1721		Aug 4 2017 1:19PM	Ms. Michelle Sharpe	<p>Our state's lawmakers have demonstrated time and time again, on both sides of the aisle, that neither Democrats nor Republicans should be trusted nor tasked with determining the size and shape of North Carolina's voting districts. The time has come to show the rest of our country just how impartial and bipartisan our deeply diverse state can be.</p> <p>I call for the establishment of an independent council for the purposes of determining how the voting districts in North Carolina should be drawn, ensuring that the new boundaries be established in order to best serve all North Carolinians, and for complete transparency both during the establishment of said council and while our new voting map is being created.</p>
1722		Aug 4 2017 1:20PM	Ms. stephanie harris	a non-partisan committee should oversee the redistricting. NC unfairly has neutralized the votes of many citizens and we have become the butt of national jokes.
1723		Aug 4 2017 1:21PM	Edith Salmony	<p>1. Districts are “compact and contiguous” – towns, cities &/ counties are not split unless required by population numbers. i.e. no ridiculously shaped districts with long tentacles that stretch out and barely touch the rest of the district.</p> <p>2. Districts follow state and federal laws.</p> <p>3. The most important: districts are not drawn on basis of factors such as race or party affiliation of voters, where the incumbent lives, the results of previous elections, or other partisan factors</p>
1724		Aug 4 2017 1:22PM	Anna ONeill	I think that districts should be drawn by an independent group not associated with any political party. Otherwise we will always have the temptation to draw the lines to favor your party's outcome.
1725		Aug 4 2017 1:22PM	Mrs. Kay Zimmerman	Our NC legistalors have dragged their feet long enough. Not only has the majority party continued to gerrymander districts to favor Republicans, but even in the face of court orders and rulings, they have refused to follow orders to redraw voting districts in a more equitable way. Over the past week Judge Eagles even commented that she believed they weren't taking her seriously. For their refusal to follow through, they should be held in contempt of court! We seem to have legislators who quite obviously believe they do not have to follow the law. Stop this delay; NC voters are not stupid, and we know what you are doing. Get the maps drawn and follow the court's mandate. If Republican candidates are worthy and will represent their constituents well, they will be elected, regardless of district lines. It is time for governing fairly and legally.
1726		Aug 4 2017 1:22PM	Katherine Neil	Redistricting should be done by a neutral, apolitical third party to reduce the chance of gerrymandering and nonsense that comes with political catfights. If you can't take the chance to win without cheating, you don't deserve to run. Do better.
1727		Aug 4 2017 1:23PM	Patrick Paige	Legislators should not play a roll in the drawing of their own districts. A clean, independent, bipartisan commission should be running this effort to ensure that the state house and senate are actually reflective of the voter makeup of North Carolina. When votes are over- or under-valued it damages our representation and our democracy.

1728		Aug 4 2017 1:25PM	Mr. Ansel Dow	<p>I urge the committee to completely omit race factors when drawing the new maps in order to prevent new instances of racial gerrymandering. I also hope that the redrawn maps will not split up counties unless absolutely necessary. I do not think the addresses of incumbents should be considered as a factor in the redrawing process.</p> <p>Finally, I think that the maps should be made public before implementation so more specific comments and responses can be made.</p>
1729		Aug 4 2017 1:26PM	Chitra Murthy	Please make sure the districts are re-drawn with no political agenda ; use the computer algorithms to help along the way.
1730		Aug 4 2017 1:27PM	Patricia Bubp	LEt's get this done correctly this time!!!
1731		Aug 4 2017 1:29PM	Mr. Michael Anderson	Make it bipartisan and fair. No gerrymandering of ANY kind (including partisan gerrymandering)!! Let the residents of the state actually choose their politicians, rather than politicians choosing us!
1732		Aug 4 2017 1:29PM	Mrs. Karen White	Please do your best to re-draw our legislatives as soon as possible, eliminating partisan gerrymandering. This has got to stop. Our districts should reflect the state's entire population, and represent geographical areas, rather than voting blocks. Please give the job to experts in the field who work with computers to get the parties out of drawing districts for good
1733		Aug 4 2017 1:30PM	Lisa May	I would prefer a group outside of the government set these boundaries; the established committee has proven to be easily swayed and incompetent in their previous actions. I do not trust them! Districts should be square - I would rather not see fingers in the new map; those are very suspect
1734		Aug 4 2017 1:30PM	Dr. Todd LaMaskin	Redistricting should be based on the best available statistical methods as determined by existing studies in the academic primary literature.
1735		Aug 4 2017 1:33PM	Ms. Tracy Rogers	Regardless of party I believe gerrymandering to be against the very essence of a democratic society. It needs to be fair. If you want to win a vote you need to make a good case for it and then go with the majority. I encourage you to redistrict the state in such a way that regardless of which party is in the majority the elections will always be fair
1736		Aug 4 2017 1:34PM	Mr. Lyle Miller	Districts should be drawn such that, as many times as possible, the party with the most overall votes should win most of the seats. Anything less than this, and you're simply not representing the people whom you serve. This is not a partisan issue. Thank you for consideration.
1737		Aug 4 2017 1:34PM	Ms. Jen Jahnke	The only way we can truly remove this kind of partisan behavior in drawing our districts is to have an independent committee, preferably verified with some kind of algorithm computer program to verify that it is balanced properly. I am tired of having politicians who don't feel they have to listen to their constituents because they are safe in their gerrymandered districts. And I'm REAL tired of having a congress that doesn't reflect the diversity of opinions in this state!!!!
1738		Aug 4 2017 1:35PM	Mr. Paul Brotherton	<p>Maps need to be fair, preferably legal this time.</p> <p>I suggest bi-partisan oversight commission (50/50) to ensure fair maps are drawn, and that they more accurately reflect their constituents.</p>
1739		Aug 4 2017 1:35PM	Tzadi Elliston	Have an independent non/bi partisian collective group draw fair and equal districts.
1740		Aug 4 2017 1:36PM	Ms. Jesse Wharton	Appoint a bipartisan, independent commission to draw the district maps creating the boundaries along existing natural and community boundaries. Both parties have proven they cannot be trusted to draw fair districts. Regain the trust of Noth Carolinians and create an independent commission to draw district Maps, similarly to other states such as AZ and CA
1741		Aug 4 2017 1:36PM	Mr. John Rippe	In reaction to the recent Supreme Court decision finding 28 voting districts in North Carolina to be racially biased, I strongly urge state legislators to take this opportunity to advocate for and establish an independent commission charged with all redistricting responsibilities. Though it is nothing new, it has become increasingly clear nationally and especially here in North Carolina that the current legislative procedure tempts and invites the biases of partisan politics and is unfair to the voters of the state who wish for equal and accurate representation in their government. Several states have already transferred redistricting duties to independent bodies, minimizing or eliminating input from partisan politicians, and in my opinion, it is time to do the same here in North Carolina. To me, it is completely backwards to put the power of choosing voters in the hands of the politicians that depend on those votes to stay in office, regardless of whether their intentions are good or bad. It is a blatant example of conflict of interest and the system must be changed.
1742		Aug 4 2017 1:37PM	Christina Binmore	All districts should be determined by an independent body. They should not be partisan in any way shape or form. Gerrymandering undermines the basic principles of democracy and makes NC look like a dvsfunctional state.

1743		Aug 4 2017 1:37PM	Dr. Jonathan Duggins	<p>Redistricting should not be determined by either political party under any circumstances. Districts should be designed to facilitate a representative governing body that is easily accessible to its constituents. To do so the optimal approach is to draw districts algorithmically.</p> <p>While no approach can remove all human bias, of course, this has the virtue of quantifying it substantially. Professor Duchin at Tufts has a great group working on this already https://sites.tufts.edu/gerrymandr/ (disclosure: I have no affiliation with them)</p> <p>Valid district maps are at the very core of democracy. No political party should unduly benefit from them; they are part of the populace's birthright and they should be designed to fairly illustrate that.</p>
1744		Aug 4 2017 1:38PM	Dr. Matthew Kita	<p>Please do the redistricting according to an algorithm that splits the state into districts of roughly equal population. There are many algorithms that can do this. I suggest you use 6-10 algorithms to redraw the maps. Then each political party gets to vote out 2-3 maps that they don't like. The ones left are then submitted as possible new districts. This helps keep the process non political.</p> <p>Example algorithms: -shortest spline</p> <p>As a registered independent I see both major political parties make weird districts to their advantage, and I think algorithms are the way</p>
1745		Aug 4 2017 1:39PM	Mrs. Martha Williams	<p>I vote and I care that n.c. Has fair votin districts!! Am asking for fairness in voting !!</p>
1746		Aug 4 2017 1:39PM	Mr. Eduardo Fernandez	<p>Districts should be drawn in the most unpartisan way possible through a computer program or independent council. Drawing districts in an unpartisan manner would allow for North Carolina's political diversity to shine. Through drawing districts in an unpartisan manner, North Carolina would be on the forefront of ending gerrymandering that has benefited both Republicans and Democrats at the cost of the voice of many people</p>
1747		Aug 4 2017 1:39PM	Woody Ayers	<p>Redistricting should be done by an independent bipartisan panel as has been previously proposed. Elected officials on all levels are meant to chosen by "the people" to represent them and their interests. It simply was never meant for elected officials to choose who they will represent. Anything contrary to that is unconstitutional and will be a waste of taxpayer money and time, as it will only be forced by the courts to be redrawn yet again</p>
1748		Aug 4 2017 1:41PM	Mr. Joseph flemming	<p>Appoint a bipartisan, independent commission to draw the district maps creating the boundaries along existing natural and community boundaries. Both parties have proven they cannot be trusted to draw fair districts. Regain the trust of Noth Carolinians and create an independent commission to draw district Maps, similarly to other states such as AZ and CA</p>
1749		Aug 4 2017 1:41PM	Dr. Natacha Sochat	<p>Taxation without fair representation was a tenet of the American revolution. Stop cheating the democratic process by the corrupt practice of gerrymandering. Stop wanting power at any cost. Districts should be drawn with no partisan manipulation</p>
1750		Aug 4 2017 1:45PM	Patrick Moran	<p>Redistrict without Republican gerrymandering and their corrupt and authoritarian influence. Use a non-partisan third party and the courts to oversee the processes/outcomes.</p>
1751		Aug 4 2017 1:45PM	Mr. Seth Theuerkauf	<p>Utilize an apolitical process that utilizes census data and statistics to inform the drawing of district lines. The data should inform the redistricting process, not political preferences. The current districting is unacceptable.</p>
1752		Aug 4 2017 1:46PM	Mr. Jeff Greiner	<p>This is an opportunity to make our state more democratic and take the moral high ground rather than continuing the divisive trend of doing what's best for one party or the other. A divisive trend that has been the primary cause of slow but steady degradation of American government. Do what's best for North Carolinians, engage in independent nonpartisan district creation. Because before we are part of one party or another we should believers in democracy.</p>
1753		Aug 4 2017 1:46PM	Patricia Harden	<p>Use counties. It is ridiculous to waste time on creating districts favorable to any party. Get your act together and start serving the people and not your party!</p>
1754		Aug 4 2017 1:49PM	Kayley Taber	<p>Check out this link, it looks like a great way to start! Let's get this done. Non-partisan redistricting is an act of patriotism over party.</p> <p>http://commoncausenc.org/legislative/#legMans</p>
1755		Aug 4 2017 1:49PM	Richard Broaddus	<p>Best of all would be to use one of the mathematical models that take compactness and existing county/city boundaries into account, with no human interaction. As that is not likely to pass, then my second choice would be a real non-partisan commission doing the redistricting. The combination of real non-partisan districts and aggressive campaign finance reform could make our state a beacon of democracy.</p>

1756		Aug 4 2017 1:50PM	Mr. John Boles	<p>I have been following the advances in redistricting for more than 10 years and thus, have a couple of requests of the upcoming redistricting process:</p> <p>1) Transparency: There is no need to make this process secretive. Share your maps. Share the data used to decide on your maps. Share your analysis. Your critics will figure this stuff out anyway, why not make it easier for everyone to make up their own mind quickly and efficiently?</p> <p>2) Public input: I request real public input. I am sure I am not the only constituent with an interest in this topic who also possesses some of the skills to evaluate and modify legislative districts in this state. I dare say that if a set of reasonable criteria were released that your constituents could come up with many solutions in a very quick time. Though, this would only be truly open if the public is given the same data and data processing tools that are made available to the legislators and special interest groups who do this work behind closed</p>
1757		Aug 4 2017 1:50PM	Mrs. Victoria Weeke	<p>I hope this time you will get public input on these new maps. I am tired of being yanked around from one district to another. These "super secret" meetings make you appear to be grade schoolers instead of adults.</p>
1758		Aug 4 2017 1:52PM	Zachary Walker	<p>North Carolina has always been an incredibly moderate state in terms of voter ideology, yet our districts have not reflected such an even political sphere. Rather, our incredibly irregular shaped districts have given a supermajority to Republicans, who now control both houses. Time and time again the Supreme Court has ruled against our state's incredibly obvious gerrymandering, and time and time again lawmakers continue to redraw districts unfairly. The fact that 28 legislative districts were ruled unconstitutional due to racial gerrymandering is unacceptable, non-representativie, and far from democratic. I am urging you to consider previous rulings and make the district representation reflect the political ideology of our state. Make districts that are balanced, that are fair, and that reflect our democratic republic. Otherwise our lawmakers cannot represent us fairly, and we cannot give everyone the rights and recognition they deserve. This is not about kicking Republicans out, it is about fairness and representation so that the government officials that best represent us, may in fact represent us. This is a topic that I will continue to fight for and a topic I greatly hope you consider as you begin redistricting.</p>
1759		Aug 4 2017 1:53PM	John Campbell	<p>I am completely baffled why a non-partisan committee can not be assigned for congressional redistricting. Political parties come and go (or at least they should) and therefore voting districts should not be subject to political affiliations. The purpose of voting districts should be (at least what is taught in Civics 101) to provide a representative to the state general assembly and to Congress. My representative, whether in the state house or senate, or my Congressional representative should represent me and my surrounding neighbors. Therefore, there are simple rules to follow. There never should be a district where any one section of the district is isolated and surrounded by another - like we see with several of our general assembly districts or congressional district 12. A congressional district should not meander through several counties - like 1, 4, 12 and 13. I am not sure how anyone can honestly say with a straight face, that the interests of someone living in Fayetteville are similar to another person living in northern Alamance County. If you live in Greensboro - your neighbors are in Forsyth county, not Charlotte. The only possible reasoning for these current districts is to separate voting blocks by race or current political identity. By doing so, the integrity of the system has been destroyed. Please return some sanity and find a non-partisan way to drawn the lines.</p>
1760		Aug 4 2017 1:54PM	Ms. Rebecca Fox	<p>I support a non-partisan commission to draw legislative districts. Twenty-one states successfully use nonpartisan or bipartisan redistricting commissions. I think it is a necessary reform which would protect democracy for the citizens of North Carolina. It would be beneficial to both political parties because it would prevent the political party in power from gerrymandering to continue its power.</p>
1761		Aug 4 2017 1:54PM	Julie Spero	<p>North Carolina has been used as a national example of partisan gerrymandering. I favor an independent redistricting commission charged with selecting an algorithm that creates districts based on compactness and population. "Communities of interest" should be carefully defined-- while there is an argument for protecting the voting representation of communities of interest, it seems this justification has been used to favor one political party or another at varying points in our state's history. To allow representation for all our state's citizens, an independent distracting commission seems better than one led by whichever political party is currently in power.</p>
1762		Aug 4 2017 1:54PM	Ms. Laurie Janus	<p>I believe that an independent commission, made up of academics from state schools and other non-partisan experts, should be responsible for drawing/redrawing legislative districts.</p>
1763		Aug 4 2017 1:55PM	Ms. Reva Phillips	<p>I think redistricting should be handled by an independent, nonpartisan commission relying on algorithms that help determine districts based on optimal compactness.</p>
1764		Aug 4 2017 1:58PM	Brian Kaminski	<p>I would like an independent council appointed to redraw the districts in an impartial and unbiased manner.</p>

1765	Aug 4 2017 1:59PM	Mr. Neal Chewning	It is simple. Liberty requires non partisan or equal bipartisan redistricting. Please remember that what one party does can be revisited upon them during times of change. Our mothers taught us " Two wrongs don't make a right." I respect your service, please respect us in return.
1766	Aug 4 2017 1:59PM	Mr. Matthew Bigham	I urge the state legislature to draw fairer district maps. I live in New Hanover Cty where the largely African American neighborhood downtown was taken out of NHC's Senate district and placed in the Brunswick Cty Senate district. We all know this was done to make it nearly impossible for a Democrat to win New Hanover Cty's Senate seat. Please fix this and the other gerrymandered districts.
1767	Aug 4 2017 2:01PM	Kathryn Allen	Please support non-partisan redistricting that fairly represents me and my neighbors. Thank you.
1768	Aug 4 2017 2:03PM	Mrs. Stephanie Marlin	Both parties have conclusively proven that they cannot be trusted to handle redistricting in a fashion that provides fair districts. Instead, they use it as a means to consolidate party power over the wishes of the constituency. Past time for an independent commission. Since that is apparently only your concern when you aren't the party in control, I'm positive that this will be ignored. Just like every other concern that doesn't keep your party in power.
1769	Aug 4 2017 2:04PM	Ms. Andi Klee	You people have embarrassed us in front of the entire country. Fix this, and do it the RIGHT WAY, not to het yourselves reelected. All of you positively make me ill.
1770	Aug 4 2017 2:04PM	Mrs. Sheila Beaudry	Andi Thomnson Klee Please keep areas as compact as possible. Try not to split towns and cities. Use natural boundaries like rivers or man-made like roads so it is easy to determine what precinct or district one is in. Do not take into consideration nartv affiliation or race.
1771	Aug 4 2017 2:06PM	Mrs. Jackie Thompson	I am urgently asking the General Assembly to quickly address redistricting. We citizens of North Carolina need more balance in all our voting districts. It's time to put party biases aside and work for ALL citizens. Continued bickering between parties does not help our state to advance or achieve our goal of fairness to all voters. Thank you.
1772	Aug 4 2017 2:08PM	Mrs. Sarah Kinnaird	We need an independent commission to draw new districts. Neither Republicans nor Democrats should be able to make the district maps to benefit themselves.
1773	Aug 4 2017 2:09PM	Mr. Taylor Bates	I am outraged that politicians draw districts for their own political advantage. It is so embarrassing to watch courts rule that our maps are drawn illegally. Please stand up for democracy instead of just your own personal gain. You all should be ashamed of yourselves. We want fair districts drawn by an independent commission!
1774	Aug 4 2017 2:10PM	Mrs. Emily Viverette	For fair representation, all legislative districts need to be drawn by a non-partisan independent body. North Carolinians cannot trust either democratic or republican leadership to draw fair districts. This has been going on for decades and needs to stop now.
1775	Aug 4 2017 2:11PM	Sarah Thomason	I am very happy to see our state legislature agree to take on the bipartisan issue of repairing our currently-gerrymandered districts. Just wanted to make it known that you have a large and growing constituency of transplants to NC, who are so appalled at national politics that they refuse to declare party affiliation. I, for one, am a registered independent. And to those voters like me, seeing a good faith effort to rise above party politics, and create districts based on economic, geographic, and social compatibility, will do wonders for our faith in the state legislature as a body, and those representatives currently serving. I thank you in advance for not insulting the collective intelligence of your constituency, and look forward to following news
1776	Aug 4 2017 2:12PM	Mr. John Hunter	Take it out of either party's.....and human... hands. Have some computer do it. Use an algorithm. Sure it may need some tweaking to make it viable on the ground. but it's a start.
1777	Aug 4 2017 2:12PM	Mr. James Scarborough	Thank you for soliciting comments. I appreciate the opportunity to provide input on this important topic. As the courts have found, it's important that districts be drawn with some attention to fairness. Other places have solved this problem well. California recently implemented a Citizens' Redistricting Commission to positive effect. If such a technique can't be implemented in NC due to various legal constraints, then we ought to make an effort to mirror its effectiveness by other means. Ohio's 2010 effort proved particularly biased. I would suggest an objective method[1] such as the shortest splitline algorithm which divides and re-divides the populaiton by straight lines until the correct number of districts have been obtained. Thank you again for the opportunity to comment. I look forward to more balanced and compact districts for future NC elections. [1] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gerrymandering#Objective_rules_to_crea
1778	Aug 4 2017 2:14PM	Virginia Reed	Legislative districts should be drawn by a nonpartisan entity. Elected officials should not in any way shape what their districts look like or who lives within those lines.

1779		Aug 4 2017 2:14PM	John Taylor	<p>Please do not allow the man who created the last racially gerrymandered maps to draw the new one. We taxpayers have spent far too much cash on litigation.</p> <p>New legislative and Congressional district maps should be created by an independent bipartisan commission.</p>
1780		Aug 4 2017 2:14PM	Janalyn Shotwell	Redistricting must be done by a bipartisan, or even better non partisan, independent council.
1781		Aug 4 2017 2:15PM	Thomas McKee	Fair redistricting in the computer age is incredibly simple. Have the computers do it. Just give them only the population data for each precinct - no other data, and let them crunch it. The result should be compact districts that are fair to both parties. Avoids the endless lawsuits that we have now, and strengthens democracy. Just do it!
1782		Aug 4 2017 2:15PM	Mr. Evan Donahue	I support independent redistricting by a non-partisan entity. I do not support a process in which districts are drawn by the legislature itself, or any non-legislative body chosen unilaterally by the majority party. To this point, no one has made the case to me that the current process of majority-party redistricting benefits me, as a private citizen, in any way. Either the process entrenches representatives I do not support, or it makes representatives I do support less responsive to my input. If there is a good reason that I should support the current process, I am willing to listen, but until someone at least tries to make that case, I must register my strong opposition to the current process.
1783		Aug 4 2017 2:17PM	Cathy Kirchin	<p>I am 68 and I have always thought neither party should draw redistricting maps. Districts should be constructed to provide representation for the people not for the good of any political party. Our country operates best when we work together and recognize that no one has all the answers.</p>
1784		Aug 4 2017 2:19PM	Ms. gloria faley	Why are we not have an independent redistricting process. This process is too closed. Get rid of Tom Hofeller. He already created BAD maps. This must be an open and independent process. Our votes should count.
1785		Aug 4 2017 2:20PM	Mr. Josh Artrip	With all due respect, maybe the law should be considered when redistricting, and race should not be used as a factor. I get why a party would want to gerrymander, you want to remain in power, and though I disagree, I understand the reasoning, so if party in power will not make logical boundaries based on community or county lines where, though the people may look or vote differently at least share some of the same concerns that would allow a representative elected to TRULY represent the district, then use party lines to redraw the map. If, however, you find that only one race is voting for your party and that you have to identify people by race to exclude from a district because they know they will not vote for your party, well then maybe the problem is not with the district lines, maybe it is with your party line... where can I leave a comment for that?
1786		Aug 4 2017 2:23PM	Richard LeBeau	The districts need to be redrawn by a nonpartisan, third party, unbiased way. There neess to be no ridiculous gerrymandering like in the 21 district. I want fair elections not rigged seats that have entrenched incumbents that are nigh impossible to unseat.
1787		Aug 4 2017 2:24PM	Ms. Meredith Ellington	Please redistrict the state immediately to comply with the court's order and have a fair, democratic election in 2018 and beyond.
1788		Aug 4 2017 2:25PM	Emily Toone	The cheating, underhanded NC GOPers must get some apolitical computer geeks to fix this mess. Brian Olsen's tool profiled in WaPo is brilliantlv elegant and removes politics.
1789		Aug 4 2017 2:26PM	Mr. William Ronke	<p>We've had years of Democrat-biased gerrymandering in this state. We've recently had years of Republican-biased gerrymandering, and they've had access to data that makes biased districting a science.</p> <p>While the court decision may have been based on racial lines, even drawing them politically is a fundamentally unethical act. It's time to break this cycle and create districts that encourage greater competition and more capacity to reflect the population of North Carolina.</p> <p>We're not a Democratic state. We're not a Republic state. We're approximately a 50/50 state. Our General Assembly, Senate, and Federal House districts should approximately reflect that proportion.</p>
1790		Aug 4 2017 2:27PM	Dr. Rose OMahony	I would like to see non-partisan redistributing committees with responsibility for identifying new voting districts. I do not want to see the same politicians who brought us illegal districts involved in the process. I want to see districts that provide a legislature that reflects the votes cast by the citizens, i.e. if one party receives 50% of the votes I expect to see that party with 50% of the seats. If not, redistricting was done poorly.
1791		Aug 4 2017 2:28PM	Ms. Jeanne Doom	<p>I hope that the General Assembly will act in a transparent way in redrawing both the NC Senate and House voting districts. We need fair districts that are contiguous, with equal populations, and with out regard to the locations of current or potential members. We do NOT want to have the courts send it back to you again.</p> <p>It is time to come together, both Republicans and Democrats, to end Gerrymandering. Individual members on BOTH sides need to declare that they are willing to set up and live with an independent, permanent commission to set voting districts in response to the 2020 census.</p> <p>Thank-you, Jeanne Doom</p>

1792		Aug 4 2017 2:29PM	Ms. Blair Kutrow	I feel strongly that districts that have been drawn by legislative majorities have contributed greatly to the division in our political discourse in NC. When districts have been drawn as I believe they have to ensure one party will win in a district, then the people in that district are not fairly represented. NC is a state whose popularly vote is very close to 50/50 between democrats and republicans yet we our representation skews toward republican. I do not feel the current state of our district maps accurately represents the views of our citizens and in fact insures that some representatives are insured that their seats are safe due to an unfairly drawn map. I feel strongly that the maps should be drawn by independent organizations. I feel that if the district maps are more fairly drawn we will have a legislature that would have to work TOGETHER to solve the problems of the citizens of the great state of NC.
1793		Aug 4 2017 2:30PM	Mr. dave palumbo	redistricting, creating an end to gerrymandering, should be preformed by non political, technically proficient professionals who have no skin in the game not republicans who "profited" by gerrymandering in the first place... academics from out of state might be best. our way of life is at stake lets be fair, educated and progressively thoughtful about this issue... we do not want to end up like a tin pot, third world totalitarian dictatorship in which democracy is just a word bandied about when the oligarchs decide to have a parade. we need to support and have real, equal "we the people" democracy based on our interdependent constitution which supports our american mandate to continually "promote the general welfare" first and foremost... and do so through the equality of purpose represented as our heritage of self rule. that and : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be compact and contiguous • Follow state and federal law • Be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout and where the incumbent lives
1794		Aug 4 2017 2:30PM	Mrs. Camilla Buie	Please get a nonpartisan committee to do this. Drawing districts to include or exclude people based on how they vote is reprehensible and does nothing to help any of us. Make the districts based on geography not race or partv. Thanks.
1795		Aug 4 2017 2:31PM	Mrs. Traci Veenstra	I am an unaffiliated voter, and I want to vote for the candidate that is working for me as a constituent before party. Please draw lines to make districts competitive. I am frustrated by this history of both parties putting power before the people who elect them.
1796		Aug 4 2017 2:32PM	Mr. WILLIAM ANDERSON	I would very much like to see districts drawn based exclusively on equal population and compactness. An independent commission is probably the best way to achieve this. The development of districts that favor one party and discourage electoral participation are an insult to the concept of true Democracy. Draw districts completely fairly and let the people send the candidates that THEY want to serve them to the legislature
1797		Aug 4 2017 2:32PM	Mr. Michael Kelleher	As a long time resident of NC, I have been aware of both parties implementing unfair districting practices to give their party an advantage in elections. This is NOT fair to the people of NC. I am imploring the NC Legislature to do their civic duty, and delegate this redistricting to a truly non-partisan, third party commission. It is clear that neither party is able to draw district lines fairly, and thus the most reasonable solution is to allow a third party to do it.
1798		Aug 4 2017 2:32PM	Mr. Robert Coffin	I fee the current district lines are unfair and undemocratic, destroying voter confidence in their governments ability to lead a diverse state and cooperate with an opposition party for the betterment of all citizens. Open partisanship will do nothing more than entrench and embitter both sides, so that when the opposition again takes the helm of the State, it will impose harsh penalties on the current statesmen.
1799		Aug 4 2017 2:33PM	Mrs. Michelle Siegel	Redistricting should be done by a non partisan group or at least a group made up of members of both parties.
1800		Aug 4 2017 2:33PM	Ms. Virginia Underwood	We deserve fair, nonpartisan voting districts NOW! The NCGA GOP has disgraced our wonderful state since 2011. If you want any chance of keeping your seats, you'll start representing the majority of voters instead of only the Republican Party. There's still time for you to turn your horrible images around. If the only way you can win is by cheating, you don't deserve your jobs. SHAME ON YOU!
1801		Aug 4 2017 2:34PM	Jayne Hunter	It is imperative that the power of the legislature be legitimate and representative of the people of the state. The intent of the Constitution is for voters to choose their representative, NOT for representatives to choose their voters. The non-partisan redistricting done by population, not party and definitely not by race that is available should be used. The unfair, illogical and unconstitutional gerrymandering in place will never ever stop being challenged, and it is costing the state time and money. Stop it, and redistrict fairly.
1802		Aug 4 2017 2:34PM	Stacey Selkin	The people of the greaT state of NC. Deserve to be represented fairly and equally. That's why I'm writing to the general assembly to have BIPARTISAN re districting.
1803		Aug 4 2017 2:34PM	Diane Yanacek	Redistricting could be done using algorithms to keep them as compact (squarish?) as possible, without regard to politics or demographics. This is how it should be done. No one making these decisions should have access to, or take into account, who lives where. It should be geographical.

1804		Aug 4 2017 2:35PM	Dr. Elizabeth H Harris	Stick to county lines wherever possible, or if necessary, divide counties down or across the middle, and group smaller counties so that the total population in every district is close to the same. Pay NO attention to the ethnic or demographic composition of the districts. Any funny-shaped protuberances in the district maps will be a give-away that you didn't do a good job.
1805		Aug 4 2017 2:37PM	Emil Kratt	New districts should, as close as possible, conform to or use existing county boundaries. they should ignore completely economic and political differences, and be almost exclusively geographic in nature, of course considering the population numbers. The simplest will be the fairest. Thank you.
1806		Aug 4 2017 2:42PM	Dr. Steven Moody	I wish to leave a comment in support of compact districts that do their best to follow lines of government entities already in existence - counties, cities, towns, or local districts that have already been determined.
1807		Aug 4 2017 2:42PM	DM PRICKETT	<p>Our state's lawmakers have demonstrated time and time again, on both sides of the aisle, that neither Democrats nor Republicans should be trusted nor tasked with determining the size and shape of North Carolina's voting districts. The time has come to show the rest of our country just how impartial and bipartisan our deeply diverse state can be.</p> <p>I call for the establishment of an independent council for the purposes of determining how the voting districts in North Carolina should be drawn, ensuring that the new boundaries be established in order to best serve all North Carolinians, and for complete transparency both during the establishment of said council and while our new voting map is being created.</p> <p>Racism is a blight that our state has been choking on for centuries, and archaic fears still have too many imaginary teeth. Let's work together, with integrity and honor, to finally kill the social monsters</p>
1808		Aug 4 2017 2:45PM	Ms. Jennifer Knox	Maps should be drawn by a nonpartisan panel based on population density. No ethnic or party affiliation information should be available to the panel. Emphasize compactness of district where possible.
1809		Aug 4 2017 2:46PM	Ms. Michelle Turner	Districts should be drawn by computer algorithms. Inputting political affiliation to determine the most balanced districts available. Population and race can be used to make sure there are no skews in the results. Fair elections requires non gerrymandered districts.
1810		Aug 4 2017 2:46PM	Ms. K Joanne Kalp	This should not be done by the legislature. They are too invested in the outcome. This should be done by an independent, objective group which includes general voter representation. California might offer a model.
1811		Aug 4 2017 2:46PM	Mr. Tom Murdock	Today's world is complicated: medicine, military, diversity, economic inequality, increased authoritarianism around the world, increased secularization, and so many more. To make the needed political decisions to maintain our democracy and leadership, we need a political base that is strong. Fair redistricting helps make that happen. Each of us needs to believe that our vote matters. Each representative needs to believe that her vote will be watched by voters who will respond.
1812		Aug 4 2017 2:47PM	Dr. Benjamin Smith	I strongly recommend that an independent redistricting commission be established for this and all future redistricting needs. Unfortunately, both political parties have abused the redistricting process to give unfair advantages to their political party. I strongly believe that legislative districts should be fair. The citizens of our great state should have the ability to pick their representatives instead of legislators picking their constituents. Our congressional and state legislative districts should be based on contiguity, consistency with natural and political boundaries (e.g., county lines), and compactness. Those drawing districts should be forbidden from using partisan data. This includes voter registration, voting histories, and incumbents' place of residence.
1813		Aug 4 2017 2:48PM	Kristen McKenna	Districts should be drawn using computer algorithm. Neither party should have any influence on the districts.
1814		Aug 4 2017 2:48PM	Ms. Evelyn Hanson	Please consider using a computer generated algorithm that will more evenly distribute voters into districts that fairly represent the voters and does not have a specific party slant. Both Dems and the GOP have been guilty of this and it has to stop, NOW! Several universities have developed programs that can protect parity among voters. I'm sure our universities are capable of this as well!
1815		Aug 4 2017 2:50PM	Mr. Glenn Goodrich	Letting politicians draw the districts is a bad in both idea and practice. Neither party has shown the ability to base it on anything more than what benefits their party. Use this opportunity as a chance to bring in an independent commission to redraw the districts and improve our state politics tenfold.
1816		Aug 4 2017 2:51PM	Mr. Charles Ciaffone	Divide the state's voter population by the number of district to get the average number of voters who should be in a district. Then start at one corner of the state, and add a county at a time, using only contiguous counties, until the population of the district is close to the average. Do this across the state, with each district consisting of fully contiguous counties. Once every 5-10 years, or census, validate that the districts are still evenly distributed.
1817		Aug 4 2017 2:51PM	Mrs. Emily Charette	The new districts should be drawn with no knowledge of voter identification nor political leanings. It should simply divide people into groups of equal numbers.
1818		Aug 4 2017 2:52PM	Ms. Nora Davis	Gerrymandering by either party should be against the law. That is all.

1819	Aug 4 2017 2:52PM	Mr. Joe Barker	STOP THE GERRYMANDERING. DRAW IT FAIR.
1820	Aug 4 2017 2:54PM	Ms. Jean Marie Livaudais	When you look at general statewide elections--governor, lt. governor, attorney general, secretary of state--you see a pattern of almost 50%/50% for each party. Representatives in the general assembly are grossly skewed toward more than 60% for the republican party. Redistricting MUST do a better job of representing state voters at large so that the generally assembly better represents voters. A bi-partisan commission should handle redistricting, not the representatives themselves. Thank you.
1821	Aug 4 2017 2:54PM	Mr. Rich Frost	Please STOP wasting taxpayer money by redistricting in a way that leads to endless court battles. It's an embarrassment to our state. If you don't have the courage to create a non-partisan districting body of some sorts, as should be done in a true democracy, at least follow the constitutional and statutory guidelines that you've been ignoring for the last few years. END gerrymandering--the people don't support it and you represent US!
1822	Aug 4 2017 2:54PM	Mr. Trevor Cannon	As a citizen of North Carolina, I request that you re-draw the voting maps in a BIPARTISAN way!! If you do not make it fair for ALL people of North Carolina, I will stop sitting in the back ground and actively pursue the removal from office, any legislator who encourages a partisan map. I will knock on doors, attend rallies, create web-sites, and encourage others to vote you out! There are many, many of us who feel this way; Republicans, Democrats and Independents like myself. I do not care about the politics of the past. I care about the future for my kids and fellow North Carolinian's. YOU, as elected officials OWE the fine people of North Carolina this request!
1823	Aug 4 2017 2:55PM	Dr. Hallum Dickens	The North Carolina Republican Party is full of malevolent cowards whose policies are too stupid to stand on their own merit. The only way you continue to be elected is by drawing racist gerrymandered districts that allow you to choose your voters. You are what is wrong with this country and the world. You are a tyrant. Please go fuck yourself
1824	Aug 4 2017 2:56PM	Mr. Eric Rufa	Please institute a system for re-districting that is fair and non-partisan, non-political, and independent. Gerrymandering has been abused greatly by BOTH parties for a long time, but the current districts are completelv biased.
1825	Aug 4 2017 2:57PM	Ms. Donna Laiosa	I feel that political districting needs to be done by an independent committee free from political entities. They should use districting software so that fair districts can be created without the use of political biases. All districts should be created without racial, political affiliation, income, and gender biases. Elected officials should never be allowed to select their own voters. The following link as an example of the type of software that we need to use: https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2014/06/03/this-computer-programmer-solved-gerrymandering-in-his-spare-time/?hpid=hp-top-terms-table-713ad118fa91
1826	Aug 4 2017 2:57PM	Ms. Wendy Stewart	NC's current voting districts are unfair, discriminatory, and impractical! Our representatives should understand and represent the common interests of a specific region, not pieces of geography linked together like threads of a web, only for political gain. Change must happen NOW!
1827	Aug 4 2017 2:58PM	Ms. L. Edel	Stop tbe gerrymandering! Now!!! I want my vote to count where I live, not diwn in Charlotte.
1828	Aug 4 2017 2:59PM	Mrs. Clarissa Miller	I am for independent, nonpartisan redistricting. It's human nature for political parties to want lines drawn in their favor. Citizens should choose their representatives, not the other way around. Fair and independent redistricting is the moral thing to do.
1829	Aug 4 2017 2:59PM	Susan Terry	There needs to be some nonpartisan oversight into this process. It is clear that the state GOP will do anything to maintain their stranglehold on North Carolina. I don't think I'm alone in saying that it makes me very angry when my vote is rendered pointless by redistricting. That's not how democracy is supposed to work.
1830	Aug 4 2017 3:00PM	Jorie Walker	Districts should be drawn by geography and population as the only considerations. I can handle legislative decisions that ultimately don't agree with my beliefs. I can handle having elected officials who don't agree with me. I can handle lots of difference and...but only if I can have faith that the system that chose those elected officials isn't rigged. I've lived for too long with elected officials who don't have to listen to their constituents because they only worry about primaries. We need free and fair elections starting with fair districts.
1831	Aug 4 2017 3:01PM	Mr. Daniel Swart	PLEASE create an independent and non-political committee to create our legislative districts. Politicians cannot be impartial in district creation. So please stop asking them to act that way.
1832	Aug 4 2017 3:01PM	Maria Collias	Please do what is morally right, just, and fair. North Carolinians deserve fairness.
1833	Aug 4 2017 3:02PM	Mr. Aaron Menconi	Congressional districting should rely on regional affiliation, not on politics or race or class. Citizen boards should review the districts to ensure that they do not rely on any of the biases above other than regional. The will of the state is a polyphony of the people distributed all across the state, not in specific pockets whose net voice is louder than others
1834	Aug 4 2017 3:02PM	matthew myers	Gerrymandering is the single greatest threat to our democracy. It is of most importance that we hand this task over to a non partisan board. No party should choose their voters. Period. Lets us get back to real work of governing our state and not drawing red and blue lines. OMG. Protect us.

1835		Aug 4 2017 3:02PM	Ms. Beth Russo	Please make districts that are balanced (not by political party!!!). Make them geographically coherent - when I lived in Asheville, the districting literally split my street in half - even though we were a neighborhood with similar issues and needs. Remember that the NCGA's JOB is to represent all its constituents, and to not support or attack them because of nolitical inclinations
1836		Aug 4 2017 3:03PM	Mr. Christopher Hardy	I hope redistricting can be completed in a non partisan way. We need representatives from both sides and need new ideas. The state is very close to 50/50 and I would hope our representatives would be similar. Both sides need to stop scoring political points and trying to be in power forever.
1837		Aug 4 2017 3:05PM	Ashley Abraham	STOP THE GERRYMANDERING. REDRAW THE DISTRICT FAIRLY!!
1838		Aug 4 2017 3:05PM	Mr. Donald Ball	I call on you to implement redistricting via an independent commission. Using redistricting as a political tool to choose your electorate and gain a legislative advantage greater than your actual support is contemptible.
1839		Aug 4 2017 3:06PM	Mrs. Melanie Kirdasi	North Carolina clearly needs to establish an impartial redistricting process that puts voters ahead of partisan politics, this is destroying the quality of our state.
1840		Aug 4 2017 3:09PM	Lisa Salazar	I would like to see the legislature commission a non partisan third party organization to draw new legislative districts and end racial gerrymandering here in NC.
1841		Aug 4 2017 3:10PM	Mrs. sharon Frazier	Use a non-partisan, independent plan. This should not be a partisan issue that changes depending on what party is in power. It should be a non-partisan drawing of lines to the people of NC are fairly represented.
1842		Aug 4 2017 3:10PM	Melisa Taylor	I am please with my house Rep John Bradford and my Senator Jeff Tarte. Their districts have produced an engaged and in formed public. The current maps should be kept in my if at possible under the current law. The nc GA has the legal responsibility for redistricting.
1843		Aug 4 2017 3:11PM	Scott Kendrick	Redistricting should be done by an independent non-partisan committee.
1844		Aug 4 2017 3:11PM	Kristen McKinley	Our state's lawmakers have demonstrated time and time again, on both sides of the aisle, that neither Democrats nor Republicans should be trusted nor tasked with determining the size and shape of North Carolina's voting districts. The time has come to show the rest of our country just how impartial and bipartisan our deeply diverse state can be. I call for the establishment of an independent council for the purposes of determining how the voting districts in North Carolina should be drawn, ensuring that the new boundaries be established in order to best serve all North Carolinians, and for complete transparency both during the establishment of said council and while our new voting map is drawn.
1845		Aug 4 2017 3:11PM	Ms. Lyric Kinard	Gerrymandering has got to stop NOW! NC is a 50/50 state as far as politics go but we are NOT represented that way because of the unconstitutional maps that have been drawn. Many experts have studied the gerrymandering of North Carolina. We need these experts and a BIPARTISAN committee to determine the new districts. Thomas Hofeller shouldn't be anywhere near the new maps. Take politics out of the redistricting process!!
1846		Aug 4 2017 3:11PM	Cassandra Smith	I strongly support redrawing the voting districts so that the election results are more fair and our voices will be heard by our representatives which is not the case currently
1847		Aug 4 2017 3:13PM	Mr. Asa Archer	Just use computer models from an independent source and stop wasting everyone's time. Sooner or later the Dems will have control and the republicans will be clamorimg for fairness too.
1848		Aug 4 2017 3:13PM	Ms. Monica Thibodeau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be compact and contiguous • Follow state and federal law • Be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout and where the incumbent lives <p>This would allow both parties to be held to a high standard and improve our democracy and representation. Thank you for allowing me to comment.</p>
1849		Aug 4 2017 3:14PM	Ms. Betty Denny	We need an independent commission to redraw our districts in order to make sure that it is as free of bias as possible. All voters should know for certain that their vote counts and their voice is heard. Allow an independent - nonpartisan group to redraw the lines and please do it soon. We need to make sure our districts are correct before the next round of elections
1850		Aug 4 2017 3:14PM	Debra Ward	You now have the opportunity in front of you to do the right thing and draw our state's districts fairly. Do not try to embark on this partisan gerrymandered district drawing that has happened in the past. Every eligible voter in this state deserves to be heard and have their vote count equally. Stacking the deck to create special districts to disenfranchise voters is unethical and should not be tolerated by either party. Remember you work for us, not the other way around. Draw fair districts in a responsible manner and stop making us look like fools to the rest of the country. People are watching and history will not look favorably on any of you if you don't step up and do the right thing at this point. Draw common sense and fair districts for this state. Let the results speak for themselves. If the majority share your vision and goals then so be it, but you should let the voters speak for themselves and not rig the districts in anyone's favor. Shame on you if you don't use this chance to right this wrong. Now is the time to rectify this situation.

1851		Aug 4 2017 3:17PM	Dr. Marilyn Smith	I am writing to urge the NC GA to include as guidelines for redrawing the districts that will result in fair, equitable districts. For example, that the districts be compact, contiguous, follow Federal and State laws, and especially ignore partisan political factors.
1852		Aug 4 2017 3:20PM	Mrs. Krystal York	The one thing this past presidential election truly accomplished was uniting people to pay attention to politics. Citizens are learning everyday how the system works and to fact check. Stop the gerrymandering! It may not have mattered to past generations but it matters to the new generation of voters. Stop gerrymandering!
1853		Aug 4 2017 3:25PM	Mrs. Amy Clark	I feel as though this is pointless, because you don't listen to your constituents anyway. But I believe our district maps should be drawn by a nonpartisan third party, from outside North Carolina. It is the only way we will get fair representation, which we all deserve, not just the republicans.
1854		Aug 4 2017 3:26PM	Mr. Ronald Myers	I think having the legislature design and draw the legislative districts is wrong because they have shown over hundreds of years that the resulting representation does not provide a fair representation of the citizens of North Carolina. There should be an independent commission appointed to draw the districts. The commission must be individuals from the major North Carolina universities with expertise in political science, mathematics and social science and NOT have actively run for partisan office or supported any partisan politician. The basic goals provided to the commission should be that predicted elected representatives should be comparable to the citizens of the state with respect to registered political party, be as compact as possible thus minimizing distances between the center of each district and the furthestmost citizen in that district, and to comply with the requirements of the Voting Right Act.
1855		Aug 4 2017 3:30PM	Mr. Seth Sykora-Bodie	To Whom It May Concern: Please ensure that our districts are designed to protect everyone's right to vote. The current level of gerrymandering is unacceptable and threatens to undermine our democracy. Efforts to dilute the minorities and make voter registration more difficult are a disgrace to those who have fought to protect our rights for centuries. If the State cannot design fair districts, then the job should be put in the hands of a non-partisan commission or left to the courts. Sincerely, Seth Sykora-Bodie
1856		Aug 4 2017 3:32PM	Amanda Dworsky	Please implement nonpartisan districts so that all power if more equally balanced and candidates are more reflective of the area as a whole.
1857		Aug 4 2017 3:34PM	Jeana Routh	Please form an independent panel of geography and population experts. No partisan tricks, just straightforward formulas that are fair to anyone running.
1858		Aug 4 2017 3:34PM	Mrs. Stacey Brown	This is ridiculous. The courts already determined that these districts were gerrymandered with "surgical precision" to sway elections. Fix this! It is unacceptable. As a long-time North Carolina resident and registered Republican, I am tired of being ashamed of my state and our elected officials. Be decent people for once.
1859		Aug 4 2017 3:36PM	Mr. Derek Adams	Gerrymandering and district packing must not be allowed to continue. Making seats "safe" and reducing the electoral importance of minorities by drawing ridiculous district lines has to end.
1860		Aug 4 2017 3:37PM	Dr. Nicole Peterson	Redistricting is a way to ensure that votes count for something - make competitive districts - no more safe districts - so that candidates have to stand for something, not just win a primary. Some computer models have done a good job at creating more competitive districts - though "choosing an algorithm that defines the boundaries is, in itself, a political decision that can never be value-neutral... Having software that can compute complex metaheuristics certainly helps, but it is meaningless without a public process to help decide upon the results". (Source: https://www.citylab.com/equity/2013/02/why-computers-alone-cant-eliminate-corruption-redistricting/4790/) It seems that a good first pass is something computer-based, like the programs mentioned in the article above. However, a real public process would certainly avoid pitfalls of even these less-biased redistricting processes.
1861		Aug 4 2017 3:37PM	Ms. Brenda Willis	We want fair redistricting. We are glad McCrory's derriere is out and we hope the GOP 's rear ends are voted out too. We elected Cooper. Stop opposing him

1862		Aug 4 2017 3:38PM	Ms. Marlene Greer	I support redistricting reform. The process needs to be taken out of the hands of the legislature. Any bill passed should place authority for redistricting in a nonpartisan commission separate from the legislature. The commission should ONLY use clear criteria - population equality, contiguity, unity of counties and cities, and compactness. What it could not use is any data on political affiliation, race, previous elections results or the addresses of incumbents. This has been done in Iowa - a state once plagued by redistricting lawsuits just like North Carolina - with success. Using ONLY this criteria, the League of Women Voters hosted a mock, nonpartisan redistricting session to draw North Carolina's congressional map. The moderator was Tom Ross, former president of the University of North Carolina, and the commission consisted of 10 retired judges. The judges spent a day learning the legalities of redistricting, and three days drawing and finalizing the map. (See the mock redistricting event video at lwvnc.org for the interesting results.) This mock presentation shows that redistricting by a nonpartisan commission can be done efficiently and fairly. Reforming how redistricting is done is your opportunity to eliminate gerrymandering and ensure fair representation for all of us in the state. The lawsuits and disenfranchisement will not end until this reform is done.
1863		Aug 4 2017 3:38PM	Mr. Shahpour Akhavi	The infection of partisan and racist agendas into the determination of district boundaries has been one of the very greatest wounds to and sins against our democracy. Knowingly reducing the power of innocent people's votes is a flatly evil thing to do, and must be fundamentally redressed. Anyone involved in it has fundamentally sacrificed their honor, no less (indeed much more) than cheating at cards or embezzling innocents' wealth. Means of fairly drawing districts have been available for years — see https://goo.gl/Z6n2Xw . Make voting in NC fair to the citizenry, and make it fair now! SA
1864		Aug 4 2017 3:39PM	Mr. Kenan Erginer	It should be illegal for districts to be drawn by partisan groups, especially legislators. The citizens of North Carolina deserve the chance to choose their representatives, not have their representatives choose their voters through gerrymandered districts that aim to produce unfair advantages for either party. An impartial, non-partisan districting committee is the only fair way for the peoples' voices to be heard.
1865		Aug 4 2017 3:42PM	Jennifer Felts	Legislative maps should be drawn by an independent committee - not by the legislators themselves, as it has been proven they will always gerrymander the districts in their favor. An independent committee is the only way to go. Without fair districts, we do not truly have one vote per person.
1866		Aug 4 2017 3:43PM	Mr. Alex Slater	Use an algorithm and an independent panel to control the redistricting process! Districts should be drawn to optimize compactness. The idea of creating "communities of interest" is too easily exploited to the benefit of who draws the lines. Can we please be on the leading edge of this issue in our country, demonstrate our ingenuity as a state, and adopt something similar to what is described here?: https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2014/06/03/this-computer-programmer-solved-gerrymandering-in-his-spare-time/?utm_term=.6177d2303036 No more gerrymandering! Please! I don't want to see either political party in control of redistricting.
1867		Aug 4 2017 3:43PM	Mrs. Lydia Edwards	There can be no faith in a gerrymandered elected body. Fix This Now.
1868		Aug 4 2017 3:43PM	Kia Christopher	Drawing maps to control the outcome of elections is SHAMEFUL. The power that you have is real, and it's important... and you're abusing it. Stop making a mockery of our state.
1869		Aug 4 2017 3:43PM	Mrs. Amanda Potocky	I support an independent redistricting commission. Partisan politics (R or D) should not drive our legislative borders. USE MATH not Politics!
1870		Aug 4 2017 3:44PM	Ms. Candace Young	Time to appoint a non-partisan committee to ensure that drawing districts is not gerrymandered no matter which party is in power.
1871		Aug 4 2017 3:47PM	Mr. Mike Ludwick	Please redraw all district maps for House and Senate. All districts should be competitive. Why competitive, that way our representatives will be responsive to the voters of their district. Now, representatives do not have to listen to ALL voters. If they win the primary, they win the general election, and as we know, primary elections play to the edges of each political party. Redrawing the maps to make them balanced and competitive will bring those running for election to the middle ground.
1872		Aug 4 2017 3:49PM	Mrs. Norma Grady	We need to vote within our government districts. Whole counties should be in districts. Forget all these contortions of lines. One citizen should represent one vote. Figure out something neutral and fair.
1873		Aug 4 2017 3:50PM	Mr. Thomas Crichlow	It is time to place redistricting in the hands of an independent, bipartisan commission. Partisanship has no place in the creation of voting maps. It is time for both parties to begin serving the people of North Carolina rather than merely serving themselves and their richest supporters.
1874		Aug 4 2017 3:50PM	Paula Mukherjee	Lawmakers should not be in the position of determining the shape and size of districts. There should be an independent council created to draw the new voting map. We need a transparent, impartial process.

1875		Aug 4 2017 3:51PM	Dr. Ryan Johnson	The basic principle of a representative democracy is fair and accurate representation of general and specific will and interests. Anything that goes against this is anti-democratic and thus un-American. Gerrymandering is a political disease because it eats away at this basic democratic principle. Both the GOP and democrats have used this diseased strategy, and they are both wrong. Voting and congressional districts should never have any aim than to accurately represent the people. It thus seems obvious that politicians should never draw the district lines. A nonpartisan third party, operating behind a sort of "veil of ignorance" (as John Rawls might say), should draw voting maps. Please, please, please do the right thing, the moral thing, and enshrine it into law that districts should never follow partisan, racial, or any partial aims. The only aim districts should achieve is the aim of that basic principle of representative democracy: fair and accurate representation of general and specific wills and interests. You, our elected representatives, select you; you do not select us.
1876		Aug 4 2017 3:52PM	Mrs. Christina Jones	It is important to have a committee, of non politicians, put together because neither party can be bi-partisan enough to put together a fair map.
1877		Aug 4 2017 3:55PM	Chad Berwick	Please..let's take the politics out of redistricting and elect a legislature that is representative of the people of the great state that is North Carolina. It's essential that every person's views are of equal value in our elected officials and it does not make sense that the state elected a Republican president by 51% and our House is 62% Republican and the Senate is 70% Republican. This is not fair representation. North Carolina has continuously been ranked among the most gerrymandered states in the nation. It's time to ensure continued democracy in North Carolina.
1878		Aug 4 2017 3:56PM	Dr. Teneal Pardue	Please appoint an independent body to draw district lines. Voters deserve fair representation, and the only way to achieve it is by removing politics from the drawing of district boundaries.
1879		Aug 4 2017 3:57PM	Townsley Minton	North Carolina lawmakers (both Republicans and Democrats) have proven time and again they cannot be trusted with drawing fair districts that allow the true voter voice to be heard in our great state. To avoid any further delays and stall tactics, redistricting should be handled by a non-partisan third party. This will ensure that no one party can create a super majority or achieve any other benefits over the opposing party. And moving forward, this should be the process/law when it comes to redistricting. The current districts are a pathetic and shameful play for power by the GOP. The counter-argument that 'Democrats have done it in the past' is downright childish, and goes to show that politicians (regardless of party) cannot be trusted to do right by the citizens of North Carolina.
1880		Aug 4 2017 3:58PM	Mr. Daniel Binmore	Fair and equal representation is a foundational part of what America really is. If you are against fair districting then you are against the very idea of the USA. Because politicians are political animals it is extremely hard to remain fair and so an objective method is needed. Either an independent committee, or preferably a computer program, is required to ensure a fair election rather than a bunch of crooks stealing elections, which both sides have done in the past.
1881		Aug 4 2017 3:58PM	Mrs. Melanie Bebler	Voter districts should be drawn by computer algorithms in order to decrease bias in the process. Gerrymandering is cheating. If you can only win by cheating. then you shouldn't win.
1882		Aug 4 2017 4:02PM	Jim Douglass	You should be required to follow the borders of existing counties. Counties should not be split up. Fix it and leave it.
1883		Aug 4 2017 4:02PM	Claire Greenstein	It is absolutely imperative that the redistricting process be apolitical! Gerrymandering goes against the ideals America professes. Neither political party should control or even so much as subtly influence how districts are drawn. I would like for impartial experts and computer programs to design fair and compact districts for our state. If that is not an option, then at the very least the citizens of North Carolina deserve to have a bipartisan committee in charge of redistricting.
1884		Aug 4 2017 4:05PM	Ms. Stephanie Embry	Please adopt non-partisan redistricting. Our state has incredibly diverse needs, and the best way to ensure that ALL of NC (urban and rural) is fairly represented is to end gerrymandering. Sincerely, Stephanie Embry
1885		Aug 4 2017 4:10PM	Mr. Byron Coulter	Redistricting must be done by a nonpartisan committee. That is the only way from preventing the party temporarily in power, which ever one it is, from unfairly taking advantage of the situation.
1886		Aug 4 2017 4:12PM	Ms. Elli Klein	ok, So the Democrats gerrymandered to a degree and the Republicans wanted to get even and do it even worse. Please stop. Set up an independent commission of non-NCGA citizens evenly spit among both parties and then a minority of fewer non-affiliated/independents (all adding up to an even number) with League of Women Voters and possibly the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights monitoring. Our State and Nation are more and more in jeopardy. You must not continue with the destruction-- Please!

1887		Aug 4 2017 4:12PM	Mrs. Melissa Kletzker	An independent council or computer algorithm should be used to determine how the voting districts in North Carolina should be drawn, ensuring new boundaries best serve all North Carolinians.
1888		Aug 4 2017 4:12PM	Mr. Patrick Summers	The current makeup of the NC General Assembly is in no way representative of the diverse people of North Carolina. While political gerrymandering may be legal, the lengths to which the GOP has gone to distort our states representation is deplorable. When redistricting do not just do the bare minimum to meet the requirements set down by the courts. Make an honest attempt to draw lines that represent All North Carolinians
1889		Aug 4 2017 4:13PM	Mr. Stephen Seehafer	I realize that in this political climate it is almost impossible to find an impartial legislator, but for the love of God, is there no way to appoint an impartial committee to oversee the redistricting. I have faith in the American voter but not when they're being directed by partisan politicians.
1890		Aug 4 2017 4:14PM	Mr. William Jenniches	Gerrymandered congressional districts are an existential threat to our representative democracy. It's time to take the task of drawing our voting districts out of the hands of our elected officials and create an independent committee for this task. A non-partisan approach will better reflect the diversity of our state. Better yet, let's use a mathematical algorithm to draw compact districts: https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2014/06/03/this-computer-programmer-solved-gerrymandering-in-his-spare-time/
1891		Aug 4 2017 4:14PM	Mr. Jim Conrad	apportion by counties. If not enough people in a county add an adjacent county. If too many people in a county split evenly in halves, thirds, quarters or whatever.
1892		Aug 4 2017 4:18PM	George Wagner	Enough gerrymandering already! We need an independent commission to draw legislative district maps based on neutral criteria.
1893		Aug 4 2017 4:18PM	Mr. William Morgan	The judges have gave their ruling and now this needs to be accomplished before the 2018 elections. Gerrymandering needs to stop by both parties. People expect fair elections and this is necessary to accoml-ish that.
1894		Aug 4 2017 4:21PM	David Jordan	Districts should be drawn by an independent, nonpartisan committee whose criteria is made public. Effort should be made to keep neighborhoods continuous. Committee should review methodology presented in the court case from wisconsin now pending in the Supreme Court for an accurate methodology to measure packing and cracking to ensure neither party is under-represented. It is time to put an end to political gerrymandering in NC. https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.washingtonpost.com/amphtml/politics/courts_law/supreme-court-to-hear-potentially-landmark-case-on-partisan-gerrymandering/2017/06/19/d525237e-5435-11e7-b38e-35fd8e0c288f_story.html
1895		Aug 4 2017 4:22PM	Mr. Dane Coalson	Redistricting should not be subject to partisan politics. If you actually care about serving the best interests of your constituents, redistricting should be performed by a bi-partisan committee or via unbiased algorithm moving forward (not that I'm hopeful for a reasonable solution given the hyper-partisan behavior of the legislature in the last few years)
1896		Aug 4 2017 4:24PM	Ms. Pamela Quattrini	INDEPENDENT, NON-PARTISAN - ALL persons in a government or political position (party officials, etc.)locally, county wide, state-wide, nationally are automatically EXCLUDED from being able to participate. Get school teachers retired persons, and an array of ALL political affiliations, R, D, Green, Working Families, Independent, Independence, Labor, etc. And you'd better get crackin'!!!
1897		Aug 4 2017 4:24PM	Mr. Mark Wear	Voting districts should be defined by a non-partisan commission. A fair democracy has competitive elections. I am a Republican. I have no problem having 10 republicans go to Washington to represent North Carolina, as long as those Republicans competed in well-contested general elections, and go there looking out for all of their constituents—even the ones outside of their party. Today, because of gerrymandering, our representatives are largely beholden only to their party, and America is paying the price.
1898		Aug 4 2017 4:26PM	Penelope diMaio	I believe in democratic principles - the ideal of one person, one vote. I believe in the democratic principle of voters electing representatives - in the most elemental definition of representing the people that elected them. Instead, thanks to highly technical redistricting, it is no longer the people choosing their representatives, it's the representatives choosing the voters. Yes, I know the Democrats gerrymandered for years. While that was wrong, it was nothing like the surgical drawing of maps that is available today. Why even vote when I feel my vote is absolutely useless? This is NOT RIGHT! Please return to fair maps - maps that truly represent our constituency!

1899		Aug 4 2017 4:28PM	Michael Mellas	This entire redistricting process has been undemocratic. Crafting voting districts that disenfranchise members of the electorate (and then leaving those representatives from the illegally drawn maps to continue to serve in office) is outrageous in and of itself. But now there are so few (and so hastily organized) times for the public to actually meet and discuss what is happening in our government. This process has only reiterated that elected officials should not be in charge of drawing voting districts. If there will not be special elections this fall to re-vote usually legally drawn maps (and potentially remove officials who were elected because of illegally drawn maps), then we should slow the process down and take it out of the hands of elected officials. Instead of elected (partisan) officials, have independent judges draw district maps. Australia, Canada, and the UK all have involvement from nonpartisan officials in drawing legislative maps. When faced with the blatant illegality of recent district maps, it is imperative we make a change to the way NC acts. Having the current general assembly draw maps again is repeating the exact same process that got us into this mess and expecting different results.
1900		Aug 4 2017 4:28PM	Mrs. Josephine Rost	Districts should be measured in retangular equal blocks to make it fair for all parties. An example would be the Rectangular Survey System that is used in the midwest for land survey but on a bigger scale. The power must be with the majority.
1901		Aug 4 2017 4:29PM	Ms. Caren Lobo	<p>Thomas Hofeller, is being again paid to help with the redistricting process to correct illegal racial gerrymanders. Hofeller, a former GOP mapmaker, was the architect of the 2011 districts found to be illegal. WHY IS HOFELLER BEING PAID AGAIN TO DO WHAT HE ALREADY WAS PAID TO DO AND CREATED ILLEGAL DISTRICTING??? Who made this abominable hire that has already cost the taxpayers too much in legal fees?</p> <p>Read more here: http://www.newsobserver.com/news/politics-government/state-politics/article163823333.html#storylink=cpyRedistricting in North Carolina has historically been unfairly manipulated by the party in power and overwhelmingly favorable to incumbent candidates. This takes power away from the electorate. District maps drawn for partisan advantage have led to years of expensive legal wrangling, divisive politics, and voter dissatisfaction. Partisan gerrymandering must be ended in North Carolina, and across our country!</p> <p>Therefore, I fully support legislation to reform our redistricting process which includes the following principles:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Districts are “compact and contiguous” meaning that our representatives can travel easily to all parts of districts. Districts follow state and federal laws. Districts are drawn not considering factors such as the party affiliation of voters, where the incumbent lives, the results of previous elections, or other partisan factors. <p>Do your job representing the people of NC.</p>
1902		Aug 4 2017 4:29PM	Mr. Corey Dockser	<p>Please grant the mapmaking process to some nonpartisan third party. My generation (I'm 18) is sick and tired of every one of our efforts to participate in the political process being instantly discarded by gerrymandered maps. We know that Democrats did it too before the GOP won its majority but that doesn't make it okay. Democracy doesn't work if there's no possibility of certain groups of people having any voice in the matter.</p> <p>We don't want to live in a country where the electoral system is built to keep itself in power. Please stop withholding clout from the people who have to actually live with the decisions you make. We matter, no matter what.</p>
1903		Aug 4 2017 4:29PM	Kaley Lowman	Politicians of either party should not be in charge of redistricting. Please use an independent, non-partisan committee to redraw our districts in a totallv fair and transparent manner.
1904		Aug 4 2017 4:30PM	Mrs. Karlene Fryxell	<p>Legislature: give up your power.</p> <p>Use Brian Olson's algorithm for compactness using census blocks.</p>
1905		Aug 4 2017 4:32PM	Nathan Montgomery	My request of the legislature during the redistricting process is simple: believe in democracy. Bizarre district boundaries are drawn for one reason only- because legislators are willing to sacrifice democratic fairness for political advantage.
1906		Aug 4 2017 4:32PM	Mrs. Martha Touchstone	<p>History has its eyes on you and woe unto those who have tried to subvert and kill two centuries of the greatest democratic experiment in the history of the world. It's more fragile than we ever realized and NC Republicans are devoid of patriotism in 2017. Change your ways while you can still stand the face in the mirror, Republicans. You will answer to both history and your God.</p>
1907		Aug 4 2017 4:35PM	Mrs. Jeanne Barefoot	I think they should have an independent group to accomplish redistricting.
1908		Aug 4 2017 4:38PM	Dr. Laura Bottomley	I strongly support independent and non partisan re districting.
1909		Aug 4 2017 4:40PM	Nathan Johnson	<p>Please hire an independent 3rd party company to calculate and draw the voting districts according to population numbers only. Please do not redraw districts with regard to anything else like political status.</p> <p>Thank you for your service.</p>

1910		Aug 4 2017 4:40PM	Mr. Pedro Morey	I believe redistricting is causing a disruption in the communities best interest. Counties should be kept whole as prescribed by law. Cities and Towns should be kept as whole as possible. We should respect communities of interest. Race should not be a factor in the drawing of legislative districts. The courts should respect the role of the General Assembly, who under the Federal and State Constitutions and the laws of the State of North Carolina are responsible for redistricting.
1911		Aug 4 2017 4:43PM	Dr. Heather Patisaul	I am a scientist and as such I want to see redistricting done in a fair, unbiased manner by a bipartisan independent commission. There are now mathematical and other scientific tools for minimizing gerrymandering (see, for example, the article in the June 7, 2017 issue of the prestigious journal Nature by Carrie Arnold) and removing partisan politics from the process. Past redistricting has been plagued by partisan, racial and other biases. Now is the time to rise above pettiness and establish a scientifically-sound redistricting process that is transparent and can be used now and going forward to ensure minimization of bias, adherence to constitutional principles, and preservation of the public interest, regardless of which political party is in charge. NC residents deserve fair representation at the ballot box, regardless of political affiliation. Failing to ensure this basic right will further erode public confidence in their political leaders, and damage our democratically derived political principles. Rigging the process to essentially create one party rule does not fit with the values upon which this state was established. Development of a scientifically-sound process will minimize the risk of either party succumbing to this enticing but ultimately autocratic temptation.
1912		Aug 4 2017 4:43PM	Susan Nguyen	Please introduce legislation to prevent gerrymandering. Our votes should not be diluted. Gerrymandering and bad politics in Chicago made its debt balloon along with tax rates. Please do not do the same here in NC.
1913		Aug 4 2017 4:45PM	Ms. Jane Small	North Carolina deserves fair, reasonable maps and an independent, bipartisan panel to draw the maps. Districts should not be drawn based on race, political party, or other factor designed to give political advantage. The citizens of this state deserve a fair and transparent process, and if maps have already been drawn, we deserve to see them now and have the opportunity to comment.
1914		Aug 4 2017 4:46PM	Ms. Leslie Shaw	Do NOT allow the same short-sighted-irresponsible people who drew the gerrymandered-unconstitutional districts to participate in the re-draw. How about a non-political oriented group or registered Independents do the re-draws AND have the courts check it out to make sure the same mistakes were not made YET AGAIN. STOP STALLING !!!
1915		Aug 4 2017 4:47PM	Mr. James Wheeler	I don't care how the districts are drawn, but do your best to keep countries in tact. Districts that divide counties, cities, neighborhoods make no sense at all. I'm sure this could be done with a little thought and maintaining approximately equal populations within the re-drawn districts
1916		Aug 4 2017 4:48PM	Ms. Anne Dachowski	Allowing politicians to draw the district maps undermines fundamental democracy. Neither Democratic or Republican politicians should be allowed to draw districts to their own advantage. We need a nonpartisan redrawing of district maps to crate a true representation of the people of North Carolina
1917		Aug 4 2017 4:50PM	Ms. Lisa Nielsen	Please set up an independent committee. Politicians should not be allowed to choose their voters. Gerrymandering is wrong and unfair.
1918		Aug 4 2017 4:53PM	Diana Burns	A non political commission should create the districts which geographically and statistically best represents NC's population. Then you can truly call it representative government. This commission should also be tasked with ensuring that the most people have the opportunity to vote by generating and controlling regulations related to all voting issues. This would remove it from both parties from misguided acts formulated by outside groups
1919		Aug 4 2017 4:53PM	Mr. Richard Weir	Stop the foolishness of putting parties above the good of the people. Base redistricting on population like it is supposed to be.

1920		Aug 4 2017 4:53PM	Mr. Fred Gregory	<p>Independent commission gerrymander just as much as legislators</p> <p>http://reason.com/blog/2017/07/14/independent-commissions-gerrymander-just</p> <p>The reelection rate in the U.S. House of Representatives was 87 percent in 1964. In 2016, it was 97 percent. What happened?</p> <p>A December 2016 New York Times editorial offered the conventional wisdom that the problem largely the result of "partisan gerrymandering—the drawing of federal or state legislative districts to benefit Republicans or Democrats." The editorial board declared gerrymandering "among the most corrosive practices in modern American democracy. It lets incumbents keep themselves and their party in power even without majority support, it deprives voters of representatives who reflect their wishes and it contributes to the hyperpartisan gridlock in the nation's politics."</p> <p>The solution? "A permanent fix for partisan gerrymandering would be to take redistricting entirely out of the hands of self-interested lawmakers and give it to independent commissions," the Times' editors argued. Now Rep. Don Beyer (D-Va.) is introducing a bill that would, among other things, set up such independent commissions to draw congressional districts.</p> <p>On the face of it, taking the process out of the hands of self-interested politicians might sound like it would reduce incumbent-protection redistricting. But a new working paper by researchers at UCLA and Yale suggests otherwise.</p> <p>To measure the relative competitiveness of various House redistricting</p>
1921		Aug 4 2017 5:00PM	Ms. Lisa Meeker	<p>I support redistricting to make our Congressional districts look more like an actual district - there should not be long snaking disconnected areas in a district. They should be connected, rather than non-contiguous, and should not span several counties. Districts should not be drawn according to party affiliation. Gerrymandering, according to party or racial lines is cheating</p>
1922		Aug 4 2017 5:01PM	Dr. Ann Harlan	<p>My district wraps around Charlotte to make sure that the NC Senator does not have to respond to his Democratic constituents. It is not right to start at the top of Charlotte and then wrap around a little line and pick up south Charlotte in order to assure that Senator Tarte will never get voted out of office.</p>
1923		Aug 4 2017 5:02PM	Mrs. Cheryl McGraw	<p>Stop skewing the districts to put all Democrats in as few as possible. Make the districts conform to geographic areas with as few oddball shapes as possible. My vote should not be emasculated. Most voters will compromise and work out differences based on common sense, not ideological premises and that will be the best way for governing.</p>
1924		Aug 4 2017 5:04PM	Julie Leon	<p>North Carolina should represent its citizens in a more truthful light. Gerrymandering is obvious and should be illegal on both sides. Our last election proved the vast difference between the popular vote and the electoral colleges. In our ideal democracy in this beautiful state and country, these two should absolutely align. I have seen there may be better ways to solve this through mathematics and/or bipartisan committees. There may be other options, I am not knowledgeable in exactly what those are. I just know that something has to change. Please give our state voters a fair and rightful voice. Thank you, Julie</p>
1925		Aug 4 2017 5:05PM	Mr. William Morgan	<p>Dear Sir: I understand that based on history, gerrymandering has been a common practice by the party in power. The Republicans continued this practice when they gained control of the NCGA in 2010. Now ordered by the courts to redraw the districts NC, I support the redrawing to be completed by an independent entity. No politics or politicians involved. The concept of one man, one vote needs to be guaranteed and protected by our elected leaders, if not, then all we have is an overthrow of democracy by a partisan faction.</p>
1926		Aug 4 2017 5:05PM	Mr. Kevin Boyd	<p>I strongly urge you to allow North Carolina voters like myself to see the newly drawn district maps and analyze them before any public hearing.</p> <p>Citizens like me are watching, and we vote. It's time to put an end to North Carolina being a national embarrassment because of voter suppression. I'm proud of my state, and we can - we must - do better.</p> <p>SHOW US THE MAPS.</p>
1927		Aug 4 2017 5:07PM	Mr. Stephen James	<p>Redistricting was intended to provide even representation as population grows and shifts. It is un-American for the representatives to Gerrymandering the districts so that they guarantee their re-election. The state legislature should be ashamed of their behavior to this point, repent of their sins and draw fair and impartial districts.</p>
1928		Aug 4 2017 5:08PM	Jennifer Beaufort	<p>Redistricting maps should be created by an independent, non-partisan third party with no current political party oversight. North Carolina is the laughing stock of the country and held up as an example of the racist south due its blatant racial based gerrymandering. There should be no basis of determining districts other than making sure they are fair and balanced with the number of registered voters per district being even</p>

1929	Aug 4 2017 5:09PM	David Ossim	I would like to see a non-partisan body draw boundaries. This should be done in a data-driven way that is free from political agenda.
1930	Aug 4 2017 5:10PM	Ms. M Bernardo	Instead of districting in order to keep certain members in power, you NEED to district in a fair and equitable manner for ALL voters in the state. The racist gerrymandering needs to STOP NOW.
1931	Aug 4 2017 5:13PM	Ms. Judith Mathis	I am in Precinct 16-05 Wake County. I have lived at this address since August, 1978. I am 74 years old. At my precinct, based on your street address and number, you could be in one of three Congressional Districts! This in and of itself should be totally illegal!!! In 1978, I was in 4. Then I was changed to 2. Then I was changed to 13. Now I am back in 4. My house is still on the same foundation, the neighborhood has not changed location. We are still 10 minutes from downtown Raleigh and I can throw a stone at Garner city limit sign. If this does not show how ridiculous and GERRYRIGGED our state is, nothing can. Neighbors should be voting for representatives who actually live in their area. I am tired of being represented by a lobbyist from Wake Forest in the State senate and a US congressional representative who lives in Smithfield and neither has any idea what his constituents need or want. Let an impartial panel be required. This has gone on long enough and has gotten to the criminal level now. It must be changed.
1932	Aug 4 2017 5:16PM	Sharron Fieber	Redistricting should be left to non-partisan third parties, using nothing but the overall population of an area. No district should be in "snake" "spattering" shapes, but divide the state into equal sized chunks, straight lines and with no attempt to include or exclude any part of the population. What has been done up to this point is shameful and criminal in its manipulation. Do it right this time.
1933	Aug 4 2017 5:20PM	Mrs. Lynn Clark	Why not stop drawing maps and go let each county choose representation based on population? For example, Wilkes County (where I live) might have 1 representative and 1 senator while Mecklenburg might have 2 or 3 based on population.
1934	Aug 4 2017 5:24PM	Mrs. Robyn Windsor	These maps can be redrawn by non partisan computer programs in hours if not days. Please stop diluting votes and not letting democracy work. Non-partisan maps are vital to our state and people's belief in democracy. My vote should count the same regardless of where I live in the state, not which district you squish me into, to dilute my vote. Non partisan redistricting now
1935	Aug 4 2017 5:25PM	Mr. Charles Nichols	In order to be in compliance with the order of the court and in the interest of fairness I urge you to establish an independent commission responsible for designing the voting districts in a nonpartisan and racially neutral manner. Thank you for your consideration.
1936	Aug 4 2017 5:27PM	Ms. Autum Kirgan	I feel this legislative redistricting should be done by a non partisan, independent committee or computer algorithms. Neither Republican nor Democrat can be trusted with this very important redistricting as we have seen.. We need fair and iust maps.
1937	Aug 4 2017 5:39PM	Sandra Still	Why doesn't an INDEPENDENT commission do the redrawing? Having either party do it is just not intelligent. To say I and others are beyond disgusted at the current situation is putting it mildly. I am a life long Republican but honestly, Berger and his gang (this isn't all Republicans) care nothing about democracy or the state. Sigh.
1938	Aug 4 2017 5:46PM	Dr. John Olarte	Partisan gerrymandering should be illegal, when done by either party. Racial gerrymandering should be punishable by jail time. I am making my vote (and I vote every election) contingent on support for a nonpartisan independent redistricting board. Politicians should not be able to choose their own voters.
1939	Aug 4 2017 5:51PM	Mr. Richard Phillips	It is imperative that the new district lines are drawn by an independent non partisan contractor.
1940	Aug 4 2017 5:57PM	Bruce Santhuff	Please allow a NON PARTISAN organization to use a non political computer program to redraw the voting districts.
1941	Aug 4 2017 5:58PM	Ms. Melissa Perritt	Don't hire the same mapmaker that got you into this legal mess in the first place. Independent and nonpartisan is the ONLY way to do this fairly.
1942	Aug 4 2017 5:59PM	Rebecca Floyd	The redistricting needs to be done by an independent committee. Elected officials should not be drawing their own districts. North Carolina still has a long way to go to make up for our lack of legislative professionalism. but we can certainly start with this.
1943	Aug 4 2017 5:59PM	Ms. Laurel Wright	I am an independent. There are more independence now North Carolina and then there have been ever. Please take this into consideration when the redistricting is done. I wish there would be an independent committee to address the redistricting so that there will be no more controversy regarding how things are assigned. It is a waste of time and money to do otherwise
1944	Aug 4 2017 6:03PM	Mr. James Martin Faulkner	I am interested to see if the screwy district I am in will get fixed.
1945	Aug 4 2017 6:09PM	Mrs. Cynthia Simpson	I would like to see districts drawn with only equals distribution of the population in mind. For example, less populated counties would group together while heavily populated counties would be divided into districts. I don't like political considerations in this process at all. I didn't like it when the democrats did it and I don't like it now. Please be the bigger and better party and rise above this pettiness. Thank you
1946	Aug 4 2017 6:09PM	Ms. Brianne Sorendo	We need independent redistricting. Our state government has proven it is simply incapable of being impartial when it comes to partisan politics.

1947		Aug 4 2017 6:11PM	Ms. Patricia Saylor	Districts should be drawn by an independent, NON PARTISAN body following reasonable, normal, existing political (cities, counties) and physical geographic lines. There should be guidance or an algorithm used to update them to reflect population changes after each census. The districts should NOT be influenced by which party is in power-whether Democrats or Republicans. I have lived in NC all my life, and my family has been here (in Durham and Caswell Counties) for more than 200 years. This state is balanced. The legislature is not. This situation is untenable.
1948		Aug 4 2017 6:11PM	Mr. Joshua Wilson	Dear Legislators, I greatly appreciate the opportunity to give feedback to the upcoming redistricting process. The image of the great state of North Carolina has been tainted by lot of negative press over the past few years, some for very good reasons. My family is from eastern North Carolina, and I am proud to say I have lived in this great state for over 23 years. During that time I have seen how successful we can be in driving the progress of North Carolina to become one of the most desirable states in the nation to live, work and visit. I believe that the redistricting process gives us a valuable opportunity to change the negative discourse of the past few years and demonstrate that North Carolina's state government is committed to being a fair and congruent representation of all people of this state. The only way to ensure this is accomplished is to have an independent committee of a cross-section of citizens, not Legislators, responsible for the redistricting process. Republicans and Democrats alike have their own interests and have shown through their actions over the years that they are unable to be truly impartial when redrawing districts. Having an independent committee is a huge step in the right direction to show that the state of North Carolina is committed to its citizens and willing to put partisan politics aside for the sake of our future. Thank you again for opening the door to discussion around this important issue.
1949		Aug 4 2017 6:18PM	Mr. Dorsey Dyer	Gerrymandering amounts to nothing less than an attack on democracy itself.
1950		Aug 4 2017 6:28PM	Mrs. Katie Tate	I request that all redistricting is completed by a non-partisan entity that receives no political gain from lines drawn.
1951		Aug 4 2017 6:28PM	Mrs. Jacqueline Spear	I want the districts to reflect fairness - no racial profiling; no fancy boundaries to negate the effect of minority voters. We have the most hateful group of people governing NC and consistently hurting our economy as well as our health, education welfare. We need a better balance in Congress, a balance of ideas - not the current supermajority that is not representative of our population.
1952		Aug 4 2017 6:28PM	Mr. Stan Cross	I urge the legislature to appoint an independent bi-partisian committee to draw new district maps in accordance with court mandates. It is clear that the racial gerrymandering is also patrician gerrymandering and only an independent body can bring legitamacy to this process.
1953		Aug 4 2017 6:28PM	Mr. Frederick Briggs	With all the discussion of partisanship in district lines, why don't we just use already established county lines? Algorithms and bipartisan committees are complicated. County lines are already established and are not up for interpretation or arbitrary adjustments.
1954		Aug 4 2017 6:28PM	Mr. Thomas Johnson	The Democrats were notorious for partisan redistricting and gerrymandering. The Republicans were supposed to better , or so I thought. Instead it has gotten even worse. My vote really doesn't seem to matter anymore. End partisan re districting now!!!!!! But that ain't gonna happen. is it
1955		Aug 4 2017 6:35PM	Ms. Sara Singleton	Please appoint an independent commission to determine redistricting now and in the future. I am so heartbroken by my home state as an example in the news of what not to do to ensure everyone's vote counts equally. District boundaries should be determine solely by population and geopolitical boundaries
1956		Aug 4 2017 6:37PM	Mr. Brett Walden	Redistricting needs to happen. It would be nice if there were equal or close to equal population in each district and the districts were not so oddlv shaped.
1957		Aug 4 2017 6:38PM	Mr. Justin Eason	Gerrymandering is an erosion of democracy. It undermines the fundamental principles of each vote counting equally, and serves only to ensure that the partisan extremes from both sides have outsized representation.
1958		Aug 4 2017 6:39PM	Mrs. Susan Postlethwaite	It's a disgrace that redistricting is done by those who have a vested interest, no matter what party, with a view to skewing the voting process. If any redistricting needs to be done, then it should be done by an independent body. It's iust corrupt government.
1959		Aug 4 2017 6:41PM	Mrs. Kathleen Dygert	Please draw districts fairly so no party is benefiting. It would be good to have confidence that our elections are fair and honest.

1960		Aug 4 2017 6:42PM	Mrs. Anna Bobasheva	<p>Honorable Representatives,</p> <p>As a concern NC citizen I urge you to please:</p> <p>- adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps. The example of the state of Iowa just shows that this can be done efficiently and fairly.</p> <p>- exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps. Please do it on the basis of the non-partisan and non-racial demographics statistics. Everyone deserves a fair vote that won't be overwritten by the carefully selected majority.</p> <p>- draw compact districts that keep communities together. Stop our great state of NC from being an example of the extreme gerrymandering.</p> <p>- stop spending more of the taxpayers money on law suites brought by the current gerrymandered maps.</p> <p>I hope these all can be done to honor all the citizens of our state. Thank you very much.</p>
1961		Aug 4 2017 6:46PM	Mr. Michael Holcombe	Keep it with county's, then population. Don't allow political party be a part of the choice.
1962		Aug 4 2017 6:47PM	Mr. Geary Jolley	As a NC and USA citizen I can't stress enough the importance of having districts drawn where all votes matter. The public is very very cynical that ANYBODY in Government cares about them. I am cynical too. I don't think anybody in Raleigh listens unless I send a very, very large campaign contribution. When districts are drawn so the election results are known in advance....that only deepens the public's lack of trust. Districts should be drawn to represent not white, black, D or R. They should be drawn to represent the PEOPLE of this state.
1963		Aug 4 2017 6:48PM	Ms. Mary T Accardi	Please let this process be done by an independent commission to eliminate the blantant bipartisanship. It is time that this state showed integrity. Fairness and honesty and integrity are more than just words they are the tenants of our democracy. Do the right thing.
1964		Aug 4 2017 6:49PM	Mr. Jason Wills-Starin	I'd like to see the house and Senate districts focused around representing professions and causes, not just geography, but barring that, I'd like to have the post offices used to determine districts. Where a division is needed, the arbitrary routes of individual postal routes should be used, not party affiliation. Let the most efficient path through a neighborhood by a mail carrier determine routed.
1965		Aug 4 2017 6:49PM	Mrs. Staci Noel	Elected legislators should have absolutely no input in the drafting and drawing up of legislative districts. It's exactly the same as saying that an employee of a company should get to determine what dictates their ability to maintain their employment with a company. How can it ever not end up being a means to maintain their job and put their interests ahead of the people they work for? Independent groups who have no skin in the game are the only fair arbitors. While input can be sought from local politicians they should never have the final say.
1966		Aug 4 2017 6:57PM	Ms. Cathy Weaver	North Carolina needs independent redistricting that is fair for all citizens, not just for those who's party is in power at the time. Competitive districts make lawmakers responsive to all citizens in the district rather than only the representative's base.
1967		Aug 4 2017 6:58PM	Ms. Shelia Bumgarner	Please just do it geographically, and be done with it. You will be heroes. Everyone will be happy. And NC can stay out of the courts.
1968		Aug 4 2017 7:00PM	Ms. Alison Bory	Please put partisan issues aside in your redistricting procedure. Citizens deserve the right to be fairly and equitably represented by our elected officials. Stop the gerrymandering, and do what's right for those who live here.
1969		Aug 4 2017 7:03PM	Ms. Sara Cavanaugh	Neither Republicans nor Democrats can be really trusted to draw fair and impartial maps. An Independent council should be established. They should use a computer algorithm for drawing out the most balanced districts possible. That process should be transparently audited and verified, with reports made open to the public, at every step should be used in order to protect against hacking and/or coding in biases.
1970		Aug 4 2017 7:04PM	Lynn Lewis	<p>I am in District 9, currently Robert Pittenger is our "representative". Mr. Pittenger knows he is going to win because of the way our district is set up due to gerrymandering. As a result Mr. Pittenger doesn't care what his constituents want or need. He only represents the people who vote for him. I've called his office, sent faxes and he has never acknowledged me. Our districts should be structured so all people have representation. The areas should be drawn geographically and should not be biased. Fair districts and elections will only benefit the State of North Carolina. Thank you for allowing us to comment</p>

1971		Aug 4 2017 7:05PM	Ms. April Stoner	I am someone who has voted fairly evenly between Republicans and Democrats, am independent of any party. I realize that when Democrats were in power, they gerrymadered for their side. That does not make it right for Republicans to do the same now that they are in power. It took a few years for Republicans to get power, in no small part because we the people were tired of no options. Remember that as you draw your little maps. It might take some effort, but there are enough independents who are tired of your crap that with the Democrats who solidly oppose you, you might lose that majority in a few years. It is sad to have to resort to those kinds of threats. You should do the right thing without fear or threat of reprisals. This state is conservative enough that you should not feel you need to resort to ...
1972		Aug 4 2017 7:06PM	Leslie Christy	Making sure that each citizen has a vote that counts and that the districts are fair and truly represent the people in them is vital. It's a part of the fabric of our state and our country which must be protected. I am grateful the courts ruled to fix this, so please fix it by using independent redistricting groups
1973		Aug 4 2017 7:11PM	Dr. Victor Vance	Please redraw the maps with the goal of restoring public confidence in the statewide election process. Focus on drawing districts with an equitable distribution of demographic groups that have a historical preference for both republicans and democrats. A growing proportion of the citizens of North Carolina have not only grown cynical about the legislature, they have lost confidence in the fairrepresentation of the preferences constituents hold. If you fail to produce equitable redistricting, not only will You lose the. Incidence of NC citizens, many incumbents will lose their seats.
1974		Aug 4 2017 7:12PM	Mrs. Laura McMahan	The current lines are unacceptable they way they are. My vote would be to make the lines straight, regardless of community size or natural landscape. Gerrymandering is a bigoted practice and we need to move away from that in North Carolina.
1975		Aug 4 2017 7:13PM	Mr. Robert Lowe	Fair boundaries, not squiggly lines.
1976		Aug 4 2017 7:19PM	Kelly Parrington	Hello - I'm writing to ask you to please show the public the new legislative district maps before further decisions are made regarding the revised districts. North Carolinians understand that you've known for a long time that racially-gerrymandered legislative districts would need to be redrawn to satisfy equal protection requirements under the U.S. Constitution and the Voting Rights Act. Frankly, it's embarrassing to be called out by the federal courts multiple times over this. The most sensible thing to do in this situation is to create a bipartisan commission though it may be too late for that. My hope is that the interests of all North Carolinians is a priority.
1977		Aug 4 2017 7:20PM	Ms. Marlene Renz	Redistributing of the districts needs to be done in an independent, non-partisan way so that gerrymandering can be made obsolete & a think of the past. I don't think it should be done in a way that it is proposed now because it screams of corruption of the system in its present form!!!
1978		Aug 4 2017 7:27PM	Robyn Rose	Stop redistricting and gerrymandering!
1979		Aug 4 2017 7:27PM	Jason McMahan	We should have clear and balance districts that do favor parties or individuals. We cannot allow manipulation of districts to provide any type of advantage.
1980		Aug 4 2017 7:29PM	Mr. Alex Panek	The maps must be redrawn without racial or political bias. The "democrats gerrymandered in the past" excuse isn't going to fly. Anything less than completely fair maps subvert the democratic process. Do what's right.
1981		Aug 4 2017 7:29PM	Daniel Helias	Voters should choose their elected officials, not the other way around. Computer districting NOW.
1982		Aug 4 2017 7:31PM	Ms. Karen N. O'Brien	Make sure, like school districting, it's fair! Not all the wealthy folks in one area, and all the poor people in another area. Have a bit of middle class, wealthy, and lower classes mixed in. That may be difficult in the country where only a few wealthy people live, but you could mix the middle class with the poorer constituents.
1983		Aug 4 2017 7:32PM	Mrs. Jane Tarney	There is no place for Gerrymandering in NC! It doesn't matter which party is doing it - it needs to STOP! If you have Tuo cheat to win (and that's is what I see gerrymandering as ... Cheating!) you didn't win. We need to come up with a way to draw the maps fairly - not like it is being done now! It needs to be overseen by both parties - and be done by an independent non-partisan council.
1984		Aug 4 2017 7:37PM	Ms. nancy vance	Voting should be much easier than it is. I demand a fair redistricting so that neither side is such a lock-in that people on the other side just don't bother b/c their votes are meaningless. District maps based on racial percentages are anti-democratic. These legislators should remember that their jobs are *not* lifetime opponents. But, more important, is the principle of 'one person/one vote.' Every vote in every district should count: this simple idea has been forgotten or ignored in this state, and NC, as a result, has the honor of having the most racist districting policies in the nation. Shame.

1985		Aug 4 2017 7:41PM	Mrs. Karin Neuvirth	Redistricting needs to be taken out of the hands of the politicians and be done in a non-partisan way. Also, mathematically speaking, an algorithm could be used that divided the population evenly keeping the lines as straight as possible which would avoid the potential of favoritism to either party. This could also be achieved by limiting the ratio between the size of a district and the size of the border. Being home to research triangle park, I know we have people here smart enough to accomplish this, so failure to do so just shows a favoritism towards one party.
1986		Aug 4 2017 7:43PM	Dr. Darrell Cox	Please set a system that doesn't allow gerrymandering of any kind, including partisan and racial gerrymandering. Let three be true representation. Thank you
1987		Aug 4 2017 7:44PM	Mrs. Jennifer Williams	Redistricting should be done by an independent group from another state. North Carolina's districts are clearly gerrymandered,
1988		Aug 4 2017 7:46PM	Ms. Julia Cruz	The redistricting should be bipartisan drawn and transparent. The state should set the American standard for this beautiful thing called democracy. It's time to show our state that we're your for the people and represent the people fairly and equally. And that Theor otes matter to make our country continually moving in a direction where everyone matters this should be a nose to grindstone hard effort to make our votes equally count. So as not to let racism be accepted as status qoe of our leaders. We are better together than separated. The world is watching and waiting to step up to the values of our forefathers
1989		Aug 4 2017 7:52PM	Mr. Christopher DeVito	Hello, As a voting resident of North Carolina, it makes sense that the only way to ensure a fair and equitable redistributing map to to send it to an independent group. Either party, democrat or republican, will tend to draw maps to favor their own party and further their goals. North Carolina has had issues in the past (both parties) of gerrymandering and the only fair way to ensure the playing field is level is to let a nonpartisan group handle the drawing. Thank you for your time, Christopher DeVito
1990		Aug 4 2017 7:57PM	Mr. Jason Williams	Districts should be drawn with the shortest split line method. Ignore all demographics, just cut the population down the middle by a straight line. The way current districts are drawn is cowardly and anyone involved should be ashamed of themselves. Ignore republican input, ignore democratic input, just split the population in half, no redistricting is perfect, but this way all sides are treated equally and there is zero bias
1991		Aug 4 2017 7:58PM	Mr. Jason Dowdle	I was born and raised in this state. I've run my business for 35 years here. I own property and am a dedicated member of the community. I demand that you create fair districts that are not based on race, party affiliation, or social or economic class. This is a democracy, not a one-party system.
1992		Aug 4 2017 7:58PM	Peter Ezzo	Please allow the districts to represent the people of North Carolina FAIRLY. The disheartening corruption that drove our previous districts must not be repeated. If the current leaders will not allow a true proportional representation in the legislature then we need to outsource this to an independent commission that can. Be brave enough to be fair!
1993		Aug 4 2017 8:05PM	Mrs. Stacie Pearman	I want to see these criteria used to create maps for NC Senate and House seats: Compliance with the US Constitution and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 Districts with equal population to the greatest extent possible Districts that are geographically compact and contiguous Competitive districts to the greatest extent possible, as long as there's no detriment to other criteria Districts that are NOT established with the major purpose of diluting the voting strength of any people or groups, including any political party Boundaries that respect communities of interest; specifically areas with shared social and economic interests, such as those shared by an agricultural community, an industrial area, or an area in which people share local natural resources for their livelihood (for example, fishing in coastal areas) Districts should NOT be drawn for the purpose of favoring or discriminating against any incumbent, political candidate, or political party. No more Gerrymandering! As a new resident of North Carolina, I am so disheartened at the nolitical manipulation of voting districts. That is NOT democracy. AT
1994		Aug 4 2017 8:09PM	Mrs. Krista Paredes-Toledo	Drawing district maps should be a non-partisan effort. Relying on people with ulterior, partisan motives, to draw maps which are supposed to be un-biased is a flawed system. I'm sure others have stated that algorithms exist which could accomplish this goal while taking human bias out of the equation. Stop putting partisanship ahead of democracy.
1995		Aug 4 2017 8:18PM	Ms. Lauren Machingo	Redistricting should be done by bipartisan committee.

1996		Aug 4 2017 8:19PM	Dr. Erin Lubin	Please consider a neutral, independent body composed of non-politicians to create impartial districts. So long as those elected to office have the power to create districts, they will always be created in a manner to benefit those holding the majority of power. Districts should be balanced to accurately reflect the overall partisan makeup of the population.
1997		Aug 4 2017 8:25PM	Mr. Dennis Burns	The G A should adopt an objective non-partisan system like Iowa, Ohio and several other states so North caroling has more competitive elections. In our diverse state, it is absurd that 90% of the 2016 legislative races were not competitive and it leads to Legislators beholden only to extreme left and right groups. Collaboration is discouraged and problems are not solved which is hurting our business particularly in innovation in which I work. Fix it now!
1998		Aug 4 2017 8:26PM	William Mackin	Please appoint an independent commission that draws the district lines for all seats without politicians influencing the process. No district is legitimate if any are drawn to help a party of politician. Everyone knows that is how it shoild be done. The current system has put our nation and state in jeopardy. It is hard to call our elected officuals representatives when they thwarted the will of the voters to entrench themselves.
1999		Aug 4 2017 8:27PM	Jodie Lones	Why is this not done by computer? It seems a logical answer and would eliminate any biases.
2000		Aug 4 2017 8:38PM	Ms. Melissa Tuttle	It has been shown that when people who have an interest in maintaining power are willing to mess with redistricting in order to do so - a VASTLY undemocratic activity - they will inevitable take advantage of any chance to do so. I STRONGLY urge you to make our representative republic REPRESENTATIVE again, by finding a panel of people without incentive to throw power to either party to redraw these lines.
2001		Aug 4 2017 8:40PM	Ms. Felice Nord	I am in favor of an independent counsel to determine future redistricting. Technology has made it too easy for a political party to manipulate the districts to influence how people are elected based on grouping together voters that favor one party vs another. It can be done with such precision that it's has become undemocratic, not allowing all voices to be heard.
2002		Aug 4 2017 8:46PM	Mrs. Samantha Register	The people of North Carolina deserve a fair and INDEPENDENT redistricting process that favors neither party. I'm tired of being known as the state with the most racist gerrymandering in the nation. It is my sincere hope that the state will take strong action to restore our image on the national stage.
2003		Aug 4 2017 8:48PM	Mr. David Vaughan	Please, please, please get an independent commision to perform this. Or a group of 4th graders. The curret sceme INCOURAGES THE EXTREMES of both parties, leaving us with EXTREME CANDIDATES as our only chioces, and driving good people out of politics, and driving friends and families apart! PLEASE!
2004		Aug 4 2017 8:48PM	Ms. Alison Hilton	Legislative districts should be drawn in such a way as to ensure that our elected representation reflects the proportion of registered voters for a given party in that district. Districts should not be drawn in such a way as to limit the representation and influence of a specific party or group of voters. We would all benefit from a true democracy in which there is debate and compromise and in which everyone's voice is heard. There is no legitimate reason for there to be a super majority in the NCGA. Our state does not have a super majority of voters for one party. The citizens of the state and the rest of the country are watching you. Do the right thing.
2005		Aug 4 2017 8:49PM	Jeff Jones	What about limiting the number of acute vertices in the polygon represented on the map to no more that 10 or 12?
2006		Aug 4 2017 8:50PM	Ms. Dayna Ferguson	Please select and independent group/commission to draw the line for the new districts. The state has lost so much money and disenfranchised many voters by the illegal and improperly drawn districts. Let's do this right this time.
2007		Aug 4 2017 8:56PM	Mr. Mark Bullock	Be non-partisan. Let a computer program do it with minimum input from humans.

2008		Aug 4 2017 8:57PM	Ms. Beth Gerall	<p>Below is a copy of the public comment I gave today at the committee hearing: Thank you for allowing the public input. I have a few brief points, most of which you have heard today but all bear repeating.</p> <p>*The districts should reflect one person one vote. They should be equal in population size.</p> <p>*The districts should be compact and contiguous -- They should make sense.</p> <p>*In creating the districts, communities should not be divided. Make efforts to respect county lines. If a county must be split, a clear and HONEST explanation must be presented.</p> <p>*In creating the districts, addresses of lawmakers -- current or past, party affiliation, voting history of voters or any other data to help a politician or party should not be used.</p> <p>*Before the districts are approved they must demonstrate party competitiveness and NO racial bias.</p> <p>* The maps should ensure that voters choose their elected officials and NOT that politicians choose their voters.</p> <p>Thank you</p>
2009		Aug 4 2017 8:58PM	Megan Somerday	You should be ashamed of the way you've twisted a supposedly democratic system in your favor. Residents of North Carolina deserve fair, democratic districting.
2010		Aug 4 2017 8:59PM	Ms. Angelyn Fairchild	Please transition to larger and more geographically cohesive multi-representative districts with proportional representation. This provides a better incentive structure for leaislators.
2011		Aug 4 2017 9:04PM	Mrs. Catherine McCandless	I do not believe it is ethically right for an democratically elected official to be a part of choosing their constituents. Power corrupts and that is too much powrt. And beyond that, I believe district boundaries should be drawn in a nonpartisan fashion. Citizens are not pawns to be played. We are individuals who should be given the full respect our autonomy deserves
2012		Aug 4 2017 9:08PM	Ms. Karen Ankner	Redistricting should be done impartially. All candidates should be given an equal opportunity to be elected by the people, for the people. That is how a democracy is intended to function and the ideals on which this country was founded. Conceived in liberty and dedicated to the principle that all are created equally. Restore the power to the people. Neither party should manipulate districts to stay in power. That is fundamentally not American. Be patriots and do the right thing.
2013		Aug 4 2017 9:09PM	Ms. Alzie Rice	Leave the districts as they are. Redistricting is not needed. You're wasting money.
2014		Aug 4 2017 9:10PM	Thomas Rossman	In my opinion the redistricting should be done by an independent statistician living outside the state with no connections to either party in North Carolina The statistician should cite his or her methods for redrawing the districts in a white paper. That white paper should be reviewed by a board of other statisticians. Once the districts are determined there should be a re-vote for those districts and all legislation/votes by those politicians losing the election should be nullified.
2015		Aug 4 2017 9:16PM	Dr. Kristi Simms	The current district maps were clearly drawn with a purpose in mind. New maps should be drawn in a geographic manner without respect to demographics other than population size. Please make an effort to draw maps that would make sense to the public. We deserve fair elections
2016		Aug 4 2017 9:21PM	Ms. Corrigan Wright	Redistricting needs to be put into the hands of a nonpartisan panel. Otherwise, a certain party will literally be able to choose their voters and be able to gerrymander this state. This is not playing fair!! This is making some voters more valuable than others! This rigs the system for those in control and leaves the voice of the people at the mercy of those who hold political power. PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE leave redistricting up to a nonpartisan panel. it is the only fair way.
2017		Aug 4 2017 9:27PM	Dr. Marilyn Steel	Districts should be drawn by independent parties without regard for political parties. Attention should be paid to population and perhaps county lines but NOT voting patterns.
2018		Aug 4 2017 9:34PM	Mr. Patrick Eaton	The future divisions in our state should be defined by River basins, internet access and Transportation. That way, The corporate pawns can't divide us anymore. And our neighbors will be our neighbors.
2019		Aug 4 2017 9:35PM	Andrea Watson	Politicians should not get to create the districts that vote for them. Elected officials represent everyone, not who they choose and not only those who chose them. Make it fair. make it unbiased.
2020		Aug 4 2017 9:39PM	Ms. Jeaneane Williams	I am embarrassed to be living in a state where legislators knowingly try to make some citizens less equal than others. I believe this is what some of the gerrymandering and past redistricting has done. North Carolina was built and prospered on the backs -- literally on the backs -- of African slaves and I had thought white people had put behind them the belief that they were not full human beings. Sadly, that seems not to be true for all white people. We are all equal in the eyes of God. Let's make that equal in the eyes of the law -- and let's redraw our voting maps with a group that can do it fairly!
2021		Aug 4 2017 9:40PM	Mr. Joshua Hughes	Districts should not be Gerrymandered they should be divided equally in population. Stop gerrymandering to rig elections. Serve as an example to the rest of the nation.

2022		Aug 4 2017 9:40PM	Mrs. Amanda Gragg	<p>My comment on the bill, submitted just now.</p> <p>"Our state's lawmakers have demonstrated time and time again, on both sides of the aisle, that neither Democrats nor Republicans should be trusted nor tasked with determining the size and shape of North Carolina's voting districts. The time has come to show the rest of our country just how impartial and bipartisan our deeply diverse state can be.</p> <p>I call for the establishment of an independent council for the purposes of determining how the voting districts in North Carolina should be drawn, ensuring that the new boundaries be established in order to best serve all North Carolinians, and for complete transparency both during the establishment of said council and while our new voting map is being created.</p> <p>Racism is a blight that our state has been choking on for centuries, and archaic fears still have too many imaginary teeth. Let's work together, with integrity and honor, to finally kill the social monsters</p>
2023		Aug 4 2017 9:47PM	Mr. Robert Peterson	<p>Please get an independent committee to take care of redistricting voting districts. Gerrymandering has caused nothing but anger on either side of the aisle.</p>
2024		Aug 4 2017 9:54PM	Ms. Brett Batchelder	<p>Just redistrict without regard to anything. It will not be perfect and it will tweaked until the next redistricting! Get over it!</p>
2025		Aug 4 2017 9:56PM	Micah Lasovsky	<p>Our state's lawmakers have demonstrated time and time again, on both sides of the aisle, that neither Democrats nor Republicans should be trusted nor tasked with determining the size and shape of North Carolina's voting districts. The time has come to show the rest of our country just how impartial and bipartisan our deeply diverse state can be.</p> <p>I call for the establishment of an independent council for the purposes of determining how the voting districts in North Carolina should be drawn, ensuring that the new boundaries be established in order to best serve all North Carolinians, and for complete transparency both during the establishment of said council and while our new voting map is being created.</p> <p>Racism is a blight that our state has been choking on for centuries, and archaic fears still have too many imaginary teeth. Let's work together, with integrity and honor, to finally kill the social monsters</p>
2026		Aug 4 2017 10:03PM	Ms. Susan Drakeford	<p>Appoint a bipartisan, independent commission to draw the district maps creating the boundaries along existing natural and community boundaries. Both parties have proven they cannot be trusted to draw fair districts. Regain the trust of Noth Carolinians and create an independent commission to draw district Maps, similarly to other states such as AZ and CA</p>
2027		Aug 4 2017 10:04PM	Dr. Cary Hatton	<p>The Redistricting should be done by an independent commission selected by bipartisan (4:4) group requiring a majority agreement to each commissioner.</p>
2028		Aug 4 2017 10:09PM	Mr. JOSEPH HEGYI III	<p>We've allowed our state and our nation to be torn apart for far too long. We must devise a way to fairly and justly apportion districts so that the choice of the people is always represented and not the partisan choice of a few.</p>
2029		Aug 4 2017 10:11PM	Mr. Craig dollar	<p>It is clear that this technique is simply a political tool, and it goes against the spirit of democracy. Let all of the people be heard equally, the way it should be.</p>
2030		Aug 4 2017 10:17PM	Ms. Lara Lustig	<p>How about we use math and NONPARTISAN committees to create districts that fairly and accurately represent the people of our state?</p>
2031		Aug 4 2017 10:17PM	Ms. Terry Austin	<p>Your maps so far have been contrary to equal representation of all voters, not to mention devious and despicable. See if you can create maps that the courts won't throw out for a third time. Three strikes and you're out!</p>
2032		Aug 4 2017 10:19PM	Mr. William Piner	<p>Voters' right to have their votes counted equally and fairly shouldn't be a partisan football that gets kicked around every time the legislature changes hands. Judicial oversight of electoral maps is good, but an independent, nonpartisan redistricting committee would be best.</p>
2033		Aug 4 2017 10:25PM	Mr. Jason Krause	<p>Please consider moving the responsibility for drawing legislative districts to a non-partisan group. The current legal challenges and past actions of both parties have shown that it is nearly impossible for a self-interested political party to fairly design legislative districts. Shifting to a neutral organization will ensure districts are drawn with equal representation in mind for the citizens of its respective districts. This neutrality will also help prevent legal challenges to a district's constitutionality and thereby concurrently saving tax payers the burden of paying for such legal proceedings.</p>
2034		Aug 4 2017 10:30PM	Ms. Molly Martin	<p>We are tired of being embarrassed and ashamed of the clear racism on display by the GOP gerrymandering. If our current legislature is unwilling or unable to draw districts without trying to stifle voters' voices, then get an independent organization or a truly bipartisan one to do so.</p> <p>Stop making North Carolina look like it's nothing but nast racists playing dirty politics with voters' rights</p>

2035		Aug 4 2017 10:31PM	Dr. Steven Lewis	It is essential that redistricting be done in a fair, nonpartisan manner. The power of democracy is to have each person within it to have the power to vote with the chance for change when change is needed. For the maps to be drawn in a manner that essentially guarantees a specific outcome for a generation, we have lost the power of a strong democracy. There are scientific ways to draw district maps to make them fair, and out of partisan hands. I hope that these are reviewed. At a minimum, I hope that the individual political parties are removed from the process so that our democracy can remain strong, and each vote can matter.
2036		Aug 4 2017 10:38PM	Mr. Charles Allen	The current districts are designed to make North Carolina democracy-proof! NCGA should adopt the map developed the Nonpartisan Redistricting Panel of retired North Carolina justices and judges: https://sanford.duke.edu/articles/nonpartisan-redistricting-panel-reveals-unofficial-nc-congressional-voting-map
2037		Aug 4 2017 10:41PM	Susan Caskie	Please have redistricting done by a nonpartisan (or bipartisan) board. Districts should be chunks of territory, with no bizarre tendrils. The popular vote percentages should at least roughly reflect the party split in the legislature. Thanks.
2038		Aug 4 2017 10:41PM	Ms. Katie Broda	I would prefer that districts be drawn by nonpartisan groups not involved with the GA. It would be a fairer process if elected officials no longer drew the maps. Have the maps drawn but nonpartisan (or at least bipartisan or multi partisan groups) that are then approved by all 3 branches of state government. A judicial panel or group of some sort, the governor, and the GA could then approve for maps to be used.
2039		Aug 4 2017 10:41PM	Ms. Barbara Mezo	Districting maps should not be based on income but on circular parameters like the circles that ripple out when you throw a stone into a pool of water.
2040		Aug 4 2017 10:49PM	Mr. Brian Huskey	The current districts are the legacy oh hundreds of years of racist thought, action, and legislation. The courts have now upheld the view that districts are racially gerrymandered and legally obligated the state to redraw them. This is not a task that can be left to either party, to the legislature itself, or to the judicial branch. The current governor - the chief executive of then state - should have the sole authority to appoint an impartial panel of five citizens (none of whom may be attorneys or have any demonstrated ties to political parties, legislators, lobbying firms, or companies that contract with lobbying firms), advised by the attorney general of the state with the ordering court's ongoing and active supervision, to draw new districts that are fair to the entire electorate within those districts and can not possibly be deemed by any reasonable person to favor any race or political party. These appointments should be lifetime appointments who may not be removed except for convictions of high crimes and felonies, behavior unbecoming the office (including but not limited to taking or paying bribes, fees, or contributions to any public official), or crimes of moral turpitude. On their death, retirement, or resignation, they may be replaced only by the governor, who shall have sole authority in perpetuity to makes such appointments, which must then be ratified by the voters in the districts to be redrawn. Any public official or private citizen who interferes with this process in any manner whatsoever, including attempts to usurp the authority of the governor to make and have ratified such appointments using legal action through any court, payments of bribes, fees, or fees to lobbying firms engaged to influence the appointment process, shall be guilty of a felony offense, punishable by life in prison without possibility of parole, have the entirety of their assets seized, and have their voting rights permanently revoked with no possibility of reinstatement. This governor's power to make and have ratified such appointments may be revoked for cause only by unanimous consent of the entire state legislature, which must
2041		Aug 4 2017 10:52PM	Krista Davila	Districts should absolutely not be controlled by any political party. We need an independent bipartisan committee. Gerrymandering is illegal for a reason! The GOP is out of control and they are destroying democracy in NC..
2042		Aug 4 2017 10:52PM	Mrs. Bonnie Latham	An independent bi-partisan committee should draw redistricting maps so not to take race or political affiliation into account. Districts should be honest this time, so Hofeller should not create the maps.
2043		Aug 4 2017 10:52PM	Mr. Klif Wommack	I like the whole county approach. Whatever the lines, it shouldn't segment a county. It certainly would be efficient.
2044		Aug 4 2017 10:52PM	Mrs. Susan Eaton	To eliminate partisan gerrymandering, let the ever increasing computing power in conjunction with advances in data science make as fair and balanced districts as possible without the influence of greed for power. This should be true for all election levels to create free and fair elections for all of the citizens in this state, not just a single party.
2045		Aug 4 2017 10:52PM	Mr. Adam Shay	It's time to take the politics out of it- regardless who is in power there should not be gerrymandering or rigging of districts. We need logical districts that result in competitive races so that all people of NC will be represented by their legislatures.
2046		Aug 4 2017 10:57PM	Ms. Sophia Heaton	We need an independent party to redraw the redistricting lines because clearly you all cannot handle this kind of power without abusing it. Redistricting according to race or political affiliation undermines the legitimacy of our elections. Gerrymandering is destructive to democracy and freedom.
2047		Aug 4 2017 10:59PM	Jay Priester	As citizens, we deserve fair and impartial elections and with that fair voting districts and fair voting laws. Enough with the egregious gerrymandering. It is immoral. It goes against everything that our country stands for! You call yourselves patriots, don't you? It's time to act like it.
2048		Aug 4 2017 11:05PM	Ms. Shirley Tenbrunsel	I support redistricting to reflect the true votes of the people of North Carolina. Gerrymandering is wrong and must stop.

2049		Aug 4 2017 11:11PM	Ms. Susan Ward	This MUST be accomplished by a bi-partisan group!
2050		Aug 4 2017 11:11PM	Dr. Abigail Agoglia	Both Democrats and Republicans have abused gerrymandering to partisan advantage and the detriment of our state as a whole. Independent redistricting by a nonpartisan panel is the fairest long-term solution to ensure competitive districts where the best ideas and vision for our state prevail. Although no method is perfect, independent panels avoid many of the problems of gerrymandering that are embarrassing our state on a national level. I urge the State Assembly to create nonpartisan panels with representation from both parties to draw our new legislative districts.
2051		Aug 4 2017 11:17PM	Mr. Daniel Haggerty	I want redistricting done by a computer program using population density and traffic patterns (which would indicate the outerlying populations interaction with population centers). I specifically want party affiliations and past voting records data completely out of the equation. Would also expect psychographic and demographic information not to be included. I'm pretty sure that SAS or IBM would be able to do this very quickly and at a very reasonable fee (perhaps free...just for the DP value).
2052		Aug 4 2017 11:18PM	KATHLEEN Sheldon	I am disgusting that you politicians think it's okay to try to gerrymander our city for your political gains. We do NOT want redistricting in our city. I thought you were conservatives who wanted to not microgovern. So stay out of our elections. My comment about redistricting is NO NO NO!
2053		Aug 4 2017 11:24PM	David Kwee	Redistricting needs to take into account population, not population demographics, or we get the Wyoming voter>California voter syndrome in our fair state
2054		Aug 4 2017 11:26PM	Ms. Abigail Herrick	I think redistricting should be done by an independent third party.
2055		Aug 4 2017 11:34PM	Mr. Marc Mues	Redrawing North Carolina's districts MUST be the work of a non-partisan committee to ensure fairness in the interest of the state's citizens/voters. The racially motivated gerrymandering is an assault on democracy and must be stopped.
2056		Aug 4 2017 11:35PM	Mr. Sean Fernandes	I hope you see this as an opportunity to restore faith in our democratic process and ensure that the General Assembly truly represents the people of North Carolina. I expect my vote to matter in choosing representatives who are responsive, reflective, and accountable to me and my community. Unfortunately, I do not believe this to be case because you have manipulated election districts to choose your voters, rather than having voters choose you. Please do not allow a lust for power and influence to erode the democratic principles that have long predated you and will long outlast you.
2057		Aug 4 2017 11:53PM	Mr. Kenneth Yowell	Please do what’s right here. The makeup of our representatives should reflect the will of the people and not the underhanded way that it has been done before. Will you give up your integrity to win at all costs? Even if it means disenfranchising the people that you are charged to represent? Win on the basis of your ideas and how you can help us, the citizens of North Carolina. Don’t win because you stacked the deck
2058		Aug 4 2017 11:55PM	Mr. Aaron Peeler	If you had any sense of decency and fairness, you would abdicate this responsibility and assign it to a non-partisan commission of statisticians.
2059		Aug 5 2017 12:47AM	Mr. Matt Ringrose	I think the districts should be re-drawn by a non-partisan third party.
2060		Aug 5 2017 1:00AM	Mr. Stephen Morrison	I swear to god, if the insane shapes of districts continue to form defying all honest logic, may Justice rise to overwhelm the politicians who did not stand for the right of the people to have votes that matter.
2061		Aug 5 2017 1:16AM	Mr. John Brown	An impartial and bipartisan committee should be in charge of drawing the districts. Both Democrats and Republicans have a history of gerrymandering North Carolina. This is unacceptable and cannot be tolerated any longer. The previous maps were created with surgical precision to dilute African American voters presence in certain districts. Those individuals who are part of communities lost their voice as a whole. I can only hope that my generation can correct the terrible gridlock and ignorant partisanship that baby boomers have held onto all their lives
2062		Aug 5 2017 1:45AM	Mr. James Keel	Non-partisan please. Get an independent group of people without partisan pressure to draw these lines.
2063		Aug 5 2017 3:40AM	Ms. Shelley R	An independent party must redraw districts to ensure fairness
2064		Aug 5 2017 4:51AM	Dr. Will Wilson	Please institute a nonpartisan redistricting approach. That can be the NC gop's eternal gift to the state. It will also bring democracy back to the people.
2065		Aug 5 2017 5:14AM	Rachel Goodwin	I want independent redistricting to be law. No politician should be in charge of drawing lesgislative maps. If any of you could be trusted the supreme court would not even have to get involved. Fix the mess all of you have created of our state and let us, the voting public, decide who we want representing us from a level playing field. I want free and fair elections where the people running are not in charge of the outcomes.
2066		Aug 5 2017 5:30AM	Mr. Andrew Stover	I know it's a complex issue, but it would be very nice to see districts that generally reflect the overall ethnic and also partisan population of the state to a greater degree. Let's be accurate, please... for the people you serve!
2067		Aug 5 2017 5:38AM	Mrs. Geneva Gray	Please appoint an independent body to complete the redistricting. Thank you.

2068		Aug 5 2017 5:59AM	Mr. Gary Ritz	<p>Good Morning</p> <p>My vote has been waterdown by the constant gerrymandering that the General Assembly has done over the years The one man one vote rule has not been followed during the last three or more redistricting</p> <p>It seems that during these redistricting events Democrats were placed into a relatively few congressional districts to ensure that the republican party was well represented in Washington DC Locally When you redrew the State Senatorial district He ran unopposed in 2014 because IMHO no republican could win in this district because the General assembly packed every democrat Voting Precincts from Cumberland County in this district,</p> <p>https://www2.census.gov/geo/maps/dc10map/SLD_RefMap/upper/st37_nc/sldu37021/DC10SLDU37021_001.pdf which does not meet the one man one vote</p> <p>thank you for your time</p> <p>Gary V. Ritz</p> <p>Non-Affiliated Voter 21st Senatorial District of the State of North Carolina</p>
2069		Aug 5 2017 6:10AM	Mr. David Hill	<p>Dear Sir or Madam:</p> <p>Take the politics out of the redistricting. Should be a bipartisan process. The citizens of this state are not being served by an unresponsive legislature.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
2070		Aug 5 2017 6:28AM	Mr. Jake Greear	Egregious gerrymandering is making us look like a banana republic. Shame on y'all.
2071		Aug 5 2017 7:18AM	Larry Pendry	Avoid dividing parts of counties into more than one district.
2072		Aug 5 2017 7:19AM	Catherine Cambier	<p>Please do the right thing and redraw district lines according to population number, political affiliation should not be a consideration .</p> <p>Allow us to have congressmen and senators who truly represent the population of their district. It is the right thing to do.</p>
2073		Aug 5 2017 7:20AM	Michaela DuBay	<p>What is fair or balanced about the legislators themselves drawing district lines? They should be drawn by an independent commission. People who run for office in the districts should not be drawing them. It's akin to insider trading.</p>
2074		Aug 5 2017 7:25AM	Christie Rife	There must be a non-partison, independent group creating these districts. No more taking turns between parties to draw the lines that give them an advantage.
2075		Aug 5 2017 7:26AM	Mrs. Alysia Ross	<p>As a NC resident, I have been deeply troubled by the racial gerrymandered districts. Please, please use a mathematical tool, such as efficiency gaps to draw the districts. I know that staying in power is important to you, but if you want to play a long-term game, fixing the game in the short-term is not going to help you. I also find it upsetting and disheartening that you would hire the same consultant to draw the new maps who put us in this situation to begin with. Please allow the NC to meet the full definition of a democracy and allow the voters to pick you, not vice versa.</p> <p>I personally have found it upsetting that legislators are so comfortable in their seats that they don't even bother to meet with constituents. My state senator's staff looked up my party affiliation and would not meet with me "because I probably didn't vote for him". Really? Even if I didn't vote for him, he represents me. Because he is so comfortable in his district, he can say and do things like this with no repercussions at the ballot box. It strips me, one of the people, of my power. Do the right thing. Draw fair districts.</p>
2076		Aug 5 2017 7:36AM	Mr. Nevin Absher	<p>Having seen both political parties gerrymander districts to their own benefit, I see no recourse but to allow a non-partisan committee perform the redistricting with no political information provided at all. To me this is the only way that the people of North Carolina can be represented correctly by our government. Anything less than that will cause future questions about the legitimacy of our representation. Thank you for requesting comments and listening to the citizens of North Carolina!</p>
2077		Aug 5 2017 7:41AM	Ms. Diana Brewster	<p>Let's stop exploiting this sad undemocratic practice of parties redrawing the voting districts to suit themselves. Let's have North Carolina step up and lead our country toward ethical democratic practice by having a non-partisan process for redistricting. There can be good use made of computer programs to do this fairly while respecting the true character of various geographical districts in North Carolina. Let's put an end to gerrymandering. We expect our elected representatives to hold themselves accountable first and foremost to the people, not to their party. There is nothing in the Constitution about political parties. Let's all try and remember that.</p>
2078		Aug 5 2017 7:43AM	Mr. Robert Coster	<p>Please consider an independent non-partisan committee to establish districts based on population not voting records. Let's bring some dianity back into politics.</p>

2079		Aug 5 2017 7:43AM	Tessa Dyer	<p>Having an independent body drawing our legislative district maps is absolutely crucial to democracy. Only in the US do elected officials get to choose their own districts. It has become clear that humans, given power, cannot be trusted to fairly draw the districts that they will represent. This is true not just of one side of the aisle - I am equally outraged about the gerrymandering that Democrats are doing in other states (and, let's be honest, they will do again when the pendulum ultimately swings back and gives Democrats the majority here in NC.)</p> <p>The only way we can have faith in a democratic process where we fairly elect leaders to represent us is to remove our elected officials from the drawing of the legislative district maps.</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p>
2080		Aug 5 2017 7:45AM	Mrs. Jessica Rotenberg	<p>A friend helped us come up with this list but this is what we want to see.</p> <p>Politically Neutral – No addresses of candidates or incumbents should be used, and residents’ voting histories should not be considered. Compact and Contiguous – Voters within a district should not be unnecessarily dispersed, and no voting district may be geographically divided, or split, by another district, i.e. all portions of a district must connect. Respect Boundaries – Avoid dividing counties and municipalities where possible. Protect Communities of Interest – Avoid dividing communities of interest where possible. Communities of interest typically have social, cultural, racial, ethnic, and/or economic interests in common. Transparent Process – The process of creating maps should be transparent, providing maps as soon as possible, live-streaming meetings, and allowing the public to provide suggestions for changes to the draft maps.</p>
2081		Aug 5 2017 7:48AM	Mr. Mike Hambourger	<p>Please do your jobs this time. The previous, illegal, districts were a farce. Long squiggly districts a hundred miles long and an twenty feet wide. Do you think the public is too stupid to recognize the true objective. Please do not game the system. Democracy is supposed to represent all citizens. You undermine the core principles of our democracy if you gerrymander districts. Clean, simple districts that reflect one geographic area, please. Do it now and get it right this time</p>
2082		Aug 5 2017 7:52AM	Mr. Alirio Estevez	<p>Please, leave partisanship out of redistricting. We the people need to choose our representatives and not the other way around.</p> <p>Allow an independent, non-partisan commission to design the districts. It would be fair for democrats, republicans and the public in general.</p>
2083		Aug 5 2017 7:52AM	Ms. Linda Sperath	<p>Please give us fair and logical voting districts in NC. Taking what is not yours is wrong, and the same applies to gerrymandering for political gain (choosing your voters instead of letting them choose you). It doesn't matter that both parties have done it, it's still wrong. NC will be a stronger and better state if governing choices are made by the people's representatives, accurately reflecting their views and preferences. We need to return to our role as a progressive southern state and leave the shame of recent events and policies behind us. Thank you for your service to our state and its citizens.</p>
2084		Aug 5 2017 8:02AM	Maria Powers	<p>Please consider the use of independent contractors to redraw the maps. Tax dollars have been wasted defending the past maps. There will be challenges to the new maps if independents are not used. Enough is enough.</p>
2085		Aug 5 2017 8:03AM	Kate Scott	<p>I'm pleased that the general assembly will be working to correct the racially drawn lines of our districts that have led to unnatural power balances within our state. We need our districts to reflect the actual proportion of people's political views in this state. In order to ensure that the process is fair and transparent, I urge you to keep the public informed at every step of the way and allow for additional comments and input. Additionally, I would prefer that a non-partisan 3rd party take on the redistricting. However, since that is not yet the required practice, I would urge the Republicans to engage Democrats in the process and draw lines that have bi-partisan support. This will be important for public support and healing within our state.</p>
2086		Aug 5 2017 8:04AM	Ms. Cheryl Viering	<p>There are computer programs that can create districts based on compactness, and logical geographical boundaries. USE ONE.</p>
2087		Aug 5 2017 8:07AM	Mrs. Dwan Dorman	<p>I urge you to work together to redraw voting districts that are fair and non-partisan. We deserve for our votes to count. Thank you!</p>
2088		Aug 5 2017 8:12AM	Mr. Michael Raible	<p>Can we at least agree that competition improves the quality of public service? Then it stands to reason that we should draw competitive districts for the Senate and the House. I have a difficult time explaining to my grandsons who are now heavily involved in sports, that we have drawn political districts so that we don't have to compete because that's what the other party did when they were in power. Let's be better than that and level the playing field. I believe if we field a better team, they will win. We don't have to cheat to do so. Thank you for listening</p>

2089		Aug 5 2017 8:15AM	Ms. Kate Green	Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I would like to see redistricting done in a bipartisan way. With input from both parties. Better yet an independent committee made up of both parties. We need to be fair and stop the partisanship by both parties.
2090		Aug 5 2017 8:16AM	Mr. D. Rex Miller	I demand fair electoral districts and an end to gerrymandering. Politicians, of both parties, should win or lose on their merits, not because they or their party essentially hand-picked their voters.
2091		Aug 5 2017 8:16AM	Samuel Smith	End gerrymandering!
2092		Aug 5 2017 8:18AM	Mr. Jason Howard	I think redistricting should be done by a non-partisan group using methods found to be impartial and fair. https://sanford.duke.edu/articles/nonpartisan-redistricting-panel-reveals-unofficial-nc-congressional-voting-man
2093		Aug 5 2017 8:18AM	Susan Pardue	No more gerrymandering. We need nonpartisan redistricting commissions to draw up fair districts so that packing is a thing of the past. Everyone's vote should be equal. Stop your partisan hackery. If you cannot remain in office without resorting to these games, you do not deserve to be there.
2094		Aug 5 2017 8:20AM	Jason Thomas	Quit making North Carolina a laughing stock. You can start by making the districts fair. I'm an Independent voter that has been a Republican and a Democrat. I will never vote Republican again and actively encourage people not to if you can't get this mess straightened out.
2095		Aug 5 2017 8:22AM	Ms. Corinne Russell	Maps should neither dilute nor enhance a vote. Follow the laws designed to protect the vote of all persons.
2096		Aug 5 2017 8:24AM	Ms. Zola Packman	One man, one vote. Revised: One person, one vote. We need districts based on geography and population, not party politics. Please establish standards for creation of voting districts that will bypass the ulterior efforts of all parties.
2097		Aug 5 2017 8:26AM	Mrs. Deborah Thomas	"I am in favor of the establishment of an INDEPENDENT council for the purposes of determining how the voting districts in North Carolina should be drawn, ensuring that the new boundaries be established in order to best serve all North Carolinians, and for COMPLETE TRANSPARENCY both during the establishment of said council and while our new voting map is being created."
2098		Aug 5 2017 8:28AM	Mr. Thomas Warren	I believe voting districts must be drawn to be compact, coinciding with cities and towns and not splitting counties. Districts must be contiguous, not merely joined at the corners. Districts must be drawn to follow state and federal law, including the voting rights act. Finally, districts must be drawn to ignore all partisan factors, including voter registration, voter turnout, past election results, and the residence of incumbents.
2099		Aug 5 2017 8:30AM	Ms. Judith Shay	Thank you for considering my thoughts on this critical matter. The current redistricting in NC is required due to the blatant abuse based on race that has been recognized by the court system. However, I am opposed to all 'gerrymandering' as I believe it diminishes the right of one citizen and one vote as outlined in the Constitution. Because gerrymandering can be designed to increase the number of wasted votes among the electorate, the relative representation of particular groups can be drastically altered from their actual share of the voting population. This effect can significantly prevent a gerrymandered system from achieving proportional and descriptive representation, as the winners of elections are increasingly determined by who is drawing the districts rather than the preferences of the voters. Both parties have found this to be to their advantage and disadvantage. As an independent voter (part of growing constituency in North Carolina as well as in the U.S.) I find the current process of redistricting abhorrent, and should be replaced by an impartial system. Secondly, the current delay in redistricting just perpetuates the abuse of the system to the advantage of the party in power. Move on!
2100		Aug 5 2017 8:36AM	Ms. Lynne Kane	NC, and every state, must have voting districts for any and all offices that provide one person, one vote. Please do not attempt to choose the voters for a political party or racial identity or economic status in legislative districts. Let NC be a model for the US. Thank you.
2101		Aug 5 2017 8:38AM	Charlotte Dungan	The only way to ensure democracy is carried out to reflect the will of the people is to draw districts with an independent commission. Gerrymandering from either party must end!
2102		Aug 5 2017 8:44AM	Dorothy Jordan	Please consider using an algorithm to draw the new districts. Or some method that would take politics out of it. Thank you
2103		Aug 5 2017 8:47AM	Mrs. Deborah Wilkes	most won't feel it is a truly level playing field unless an independent panel redraws the district's. politicians should not be in charge of this.
2104		Aug 5 2017 8:50AM	Dr. Anne York	Please just be fair to all. This should not be politicized, which is why an objective third party should do it, not the biased people that created what we have now. And get it done. I am sick of your spending our State's money on unconstitutional activities that have to be litigated in court.
2105		Aug 5 2017 8:54AM	Mr. Robert Garmhausen	Needs to be done by a non-partisan 3rd party, or computer algorithm that will fairly draw the districts. The current system is breaking our democracy. electing reps that don't represent us.

2106		Aug 5 2017 8:58AM	jeff bohan	I am calling on you for fair maps,one person, one vote! NC voters deserve a process for drawing political district maps that is fair and open; avoids racial or partisan gerrymandering; and allows voters to pick their political representative, not the other way around. I urge you to follow best practices for drawing nonpartisan districts.These include criteria that districts must be compact, coinciding with cities and towns and avoiding splitting counties. It must be contiguous, meaning that the districts are not merely joined at the corners; follow state and federal law, such as the Voting Rights Act; and ignore all partisan factors such as voter turnout, past election results, and the residence of incumbents.Thank you for your time.
2107		Aug 5 2017 9:00AM	Mrs. Lalena Haro	Redistricting should be done by an independent board, it should not be controlled by republicans or democrats. Get politics out of redistrictina!!!
2108		Aug 5 2017 9:01AM	Mr. Stephen ADVOKAT	Stop foot-dragging! Elections aren't that far away, and as an AARP official, we don't forget and we do vote...en masse. Here's some guidelines, if you need help: * Compact, coinciding with cities and towns and avoiding splitting counties; * Contiguous, meaning that the districts are not merely joined at the corners; * Follow state and federal law, such as the Voting Rights Act; and * Ignore all partisan factors such as voter registration, voter turnout, past election results, and the residence of incumbents.
2109		Aug 5 2017 9:01AM	Dr. Karen Geiger	Please establish an indecent commission who will put aside their racism, classism, and poilitical party to create a way to set up districts to truly represent the people in our state and repair our reputation.
2110		Aug 5 2017 9:01AM	Ms. Wendi Gratz	I've seen some districts drawn by computer that make perfect sense. Please can we move to that? Or - at the very least - a non-partisan committee of people like other states have done? It's ridiculous for the party in power (I don't care which party it is) to draw voting districts. They will always ALWAYS try to skew them in their favor.
2111		Aug 5 2017 9:19AM	Ms. Denise Long	Redistricting cannot be done fairly by legislators who have the incentive to keep their own political party in power. It should be done by the courts or an independent commission. Otherwise, our democracv is a sham.
2112		Aug 5 2017 9:20AM	Mrs. Natasha Fisher	Districts should not be drawn in a way that intentionally influences election outcomes. Doing so should disqualify one for public service. This is more embarassing for our state than the 3 of our cities being in the top 25 opioid abusers then "accidentally" cutting mental health and substance abuse services even further, the amount of profit our MCO's are allowed to sit on, and the ingorance of HB2. Please enure that redistricting follows a fair process to ensure representation for all people and find it in yourselves to seperate your personal interests. It is not republicans against dems, its a full state of people and families who elect you and pay for you and we allow you to make decisions for all of us in this state. It is a unmoral low to attempt to draw districts to influence desired outcomes for any specific party. Shame on this state. Do better.
2113		Aug 5 2017 9:22AM	Ann Alford	The time has come to take politicians out of the redistricting process. Why not use zip codes to draw the maps? With multiple media sources available to ordinary citizens, it is easy for voters to witness your egregious behavior and your attempt to corrupt our democractic nrocess
2114		Aug 5 2017 9:28AM	J Lettieri	Please do the right thing that accurately reflects our state and is compact and contiguous Follow state and federal law Be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout and where the incumbent lives Thank you
2115		Aug 5 2017 9:37AM	Dr. Keith Allen	Here we are re again. THE SAME group of zealots which has repeatedly, and illegally, gerrymandered our legislatre is on board to do it again. They've squandered millions of NC taxpayer dollars defending their illicit behavior, and they assure us "Hey, we'll get it right THIS time!" No they won't, because they don't want to get it right! They're perfectly content to continue their shoddy, cowardly game, the voting public be damned. It's long past time for the courts to hold these sad clowns accountable for their actions, but, in fact, they're now doing their damndest to gerrymander the courts, too. The REAL voter fraud in NC is in this legislature's drive to prevent "the wrong" people from voting, and rig the system as much as, and for as long as, possible. Do away with this crappy charade! Let an INDEPENDENT, BI-PARTISAN COMMISSION re District! Or GO TO JAIL, where you
2116		Aug 5 2017 9:40AM	Mr. Dameon Williams	Please cut the crap. People are spreading out more and overlapping. Stop grouping folks together for the sake of winning. If your policies were really that good for the citizens, antics like this wouldn't be needed to get a vote.

2117		Aug 5 2017 9:42AM	Mrs. Tamara Hutchinson	Brian Olson's algorithm as shared by The Washington Post (https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2014/06/03/this-computer-programmer-solved-gerrymandering-in-his-spare-time/?utm_term=.2c95c0ae7525) explains how this can be done. Especially-redistricting should group minorities together as this weakens their vote. Use GIS technology, employed by 'independents.' Now where to get the independents? DO IT RIGHT and stop making North Carolinians feel embarrassed by their legislature. Not to mention the tax money wasted on lawsuits! GRRR!
2118		Aug 5 2017 9:45AM	Michael Soboeiro	Please find a way to put aside partisan politics and create truly fair districts where each vote counts. The idea that constituents are not choosing their representatives but representatives are choosing their constituents is, to me, the single biggest problem in government today. This problem is causing the huge partisan divide and the loss of faith in government. Please creat districts that are not partisan or gerrymandered so the the people can once again have a say in the political process. Thank you.
2119		Aug 5 2017 9:49AM	Mrs. Amy Howard	Redistricting should be done by an independent committee, not politicians. Republicans and Democrats cannot be trusted to draw fair districts.
2120		Aug 5 2017 9:53AM	Mr. Wade Gowdy	The obvious gerrymandering of voting districts needs to stop, it is unfair and creates political results that benefit the group in political control at the time and is not following the spirit of our state constitution and the laws governing voting districts. I will be voting for candidates that support fixing this issue.
2121		Aug 5 2017 9:57AM	Ms. Karen Bender	Redistricting needs to be done in a way that does NOT favor one party or another. An impartial, nonpartisan organization should be in charge of fair redistricting in North Carolina. To ensure that the citizens of North Carolina feel that democracy is being run in a fair and just manner, the legislature needs to draw these maps in a way that is not partisan.
2122		Aug 5 2017 9:59AM	Ms. Ricki Shepherd	Please do as the Federal judges are asking and make the changes to our districts to reflect more even population numbers. We the people are truly sick of your game playing - all of you.
2123		Aug 5 2017 10:00AM	Dr. Vance Reese	I am glad that at least our Federal government is just and fair. IThe people are watching you, so behave well!
2124		Aug 5 2017 10:07AM	Mr. Jared Buckner	Greetings, Part of the problem of redistricting stems from the perception that, because humans are responsible for the entirety of the map, it follows that the map is inherently partisan, carrying with it the biases of its drafters. A computer can be used to draw districts impartially -- if instructed impartially -- but there is little political will to give up the power of redistricting in its fullness to a bureau of technocrats. I would propose that North Carolina take the time to develop and implement a computer-aided approach to redistricting. This approach limits the ability of either party to fully control election results by arbitrary boundary determination, yet retains for the parties the ability to select from among "fair" maps those best suited for the State and its communities. What follows is a description of one form of this approach. Other forms may also be suitable. A district map seeks to satisfy two requirements: To ensure proportional representation, every district should have a nearly equal population. To reflect its constituency, districts should not divide communities. These requirements are in many ways at odds when drafting boundaries, for individuals may belong to conflicting communities of work, school, and church; these are also of different sizes and natures. For the purpose of redistricting our State should be divided first into small indivisible geographic communities -- townships, for example -- and these then joined into the appropriate number of contiguous regions. A computer can generate a myriad of such maps. How do we determine which ones are suitable for consideration? Each map is given two scores based on how well they meet the two requirements. I'd like to see what our legislators are doing.
2125		Aug 5 2017 10:20AM	Cara Johnson	
2126		Aug 5 2017 10:22AM	Linda Ingram	I think it is essential to have any redistricting efforts reflect true bipartisan involvement. Gerrymandering has contributed greatly to unfair voting impact.

2127		Aug 5 2017 10:23AM	Dr. Richard Hronek	<p>I want to see these criteria used to create maps for NC Senate and House seats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Compliance with the US Constitution and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 * Districts with equal population to the greatest extent possible * Districts that are geographically compact and contiguous * Competitive districts to the greatest extent possible, as long as there's no detriment to other criteria * Districts that are NOT established with the major purpose of diluting the voting strength of any people or groups, including any political party * Boundaries that respect communities of interest; specifically areas with shared social and economic interests, such as those shared by an agricultural community, an industrial area, or an area in which people share local natural resources for their livelihood (for example, fishing in coastal areas)
2128		Aug 5 2017 10:24AM	Mr. Barry Cheney	<p>I hope that you will take VERY seriously the task of redrawing legislative boundaries. Nothing will do more to encourage, or discourage civic participation. We need non-partisan districts drawn in a fair manner. Gerrymandering by both parties has caused grave damage to our democracy. Please use your position to begin to repair the damage.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
2129		Aug 5 2017 10:28AM	Mrs. Sylvia Malagon	<p>History lesson for those of you who have forgotten: Voters are supposed to pick their representatives not the other way around. And now for some free advice for NC GOP: Your gerrymandering and voter suppression are immoral and disgusting. Instead of trying to rig the system, how about trying to do what's best for your constituents? That includes not going along with all the right wing conspiracy theories and junk science. GOP is no longer about solid conservative principles but about cheating and lying. Trump may be your elected leader but those of you following him blindly are just as guilty. Thank you.</p>
2130		Aug 5 2017 10:30AM	Mr. Jeff Wehrheim	<p>Redistricting needs to be taken out of the hands of politicians. They cannot effectively manage the process in an honest manner. This takes up too much of our valuable time and is unfair. It needs to be done by an independent group or computer based on geography. It should be done once and left in place for a minimum of 10 years. Stop the racism and hickering.</p>
2131		Aug 5 2017 10:30AM	Ms. Rebecca LaPrade	<p>I want fairly drawn voting districts for North Carolina. I am tired of grown people manipulating these districts in their favor. We are a democracy last time I checked and it's time to start acting like it instead of acting like children and wanting things fixed your way. It is unfair to this state to have these ridiculous district lines. I lived in one of those screwed up districts and the person running for office lived far away and was totally unheard of and didn't do anything for our area. It is time for politicians to start representing the people again instead of themselves. I am fed up with you.</p>
2132		Aug 5 2017 10:49AM	Ms. Diane Lemieux	<p>Some countries address gerrymandering by tasking nonpartisan organizations or cross-party bodies with defining constituency borders, thus taking the responsibility out of the hands of politicians who have obvious self-interest in the results. Examples include the United Kingdom's Boundary Commission and Australia's Electoral Commission. The Netherlands circumvents the issue of gerrymandering by using an electoral system with only one nationwide voting district for election of national representatives.</p> <p>In Iowa, the nonpartisan Legislative Services Bureau determines boundaries of electoral districts. The bureau forbids considerations of incumbent impact, previous boundary locations, and political party proportions while satisfying federally mandated contiguity and population equality criteria. Iowa's resulting districts are generally regular polygons, not strangely shaped, politically motivated lines.</p> <p>Similarly, the states of Washington, Arizona, and California have created standing committees comprising nonpoliticians for the redistricting following the 2010 census. California's Citizens Redistricting Commission issued its maps in June 2011; the maps indicated clear and profound changes in the state's voting picture.</p> <p>In addition to putting nonpartisan commissions in charge of redistricting, it's time to take legislative action to place regularity constraints on the shapes of districts; this would work better to combat gerrymandering than the current requirements for contiguity and population balance. The contiguity requirement is extremely weak, often resulting in districts with very thin threads of land connecting entirely different parts of a state. Similarly, constraining the shapes of districts would limit the ability of politicians and skilled computer programmers to determine the political representation.</p>
2133		Aug 5 2017 10:56AM	Mr. Jonathan Schneider	<p>Make it random. That's the only way to prevent either party from using the system for personal benefit.</p>
2134		Aug 5 2017 11:01AM	Helen Williams	<p>It would greatly simplify redistricting if counties were not divided into more than one district. Divide the state up into contiguous blocks of intact counties. Anything else is obviously an attempt to influence elections. and should be illegal.</p>

2135		Aug 5 2017 11:04AM	Ms. Judy Baker	I am in favor of using a computer algorithm, or other completely bipartisan approach to redistricting. We have been misrepresented for long enough. The group or individuals involved in in the last redistricting should in no way be involved in the new plans.
2136		Aug 5 2017 11:05AM	Ms. Marian Schnitzel	Draw the districts fairly and legally! Come on NC!!
2137		Aug 5 2017 11:07AM	Mrs. Sara Rutzky	I'd like my vote to count! Given the highly partisan nature of the gerrymandering in our state, please create a nonpartisan commission to draw our voting districts! Our maps should be based on population, not skin color or party affiliation. Please do the right thing and bring North Carolina that much closer to having free and open elections again.
2138		Aug 5 2017 11:08AM	Mrs. Miche Swai	Tthe politicians of NC need to work for the greater good of NC vs special interests. I do not want elected officials drawing the district lines. I want a bipartisan 3rd party to redraw the districts.
2139		Aug 5 2017 11:09AM	Barbara Roberts	I feel that an independent commission should be responsible for drawing the district lines rather than the legislators who stand to benefit from intricately drawn and bias lines. Also, I feel that improving the voting process is just as important. Adopting either a cumulative voting system or a rank choice voting system would be preferable to the winner take all system we now have
2140		Aug 5 2017 11:19AM	Ms. Ruth christie	I want the new districts to be compact, contiguous, avoid dividing towns, cities and counties where possible, follow federal law re anti-discrimination and drawn without partisan factors such as where an incumbent lives.
2141		Aug 5 2017 11:29AM	Mr. Robert Fleury	Please set up an independent commission of equal members from both parties to draw district lines. It is the only way to ensure the districts truly represent the demographics. Too many districts are completely safe for the incumbents. That is not democracy.
2142		Aug 5 2017 11:31AM	Dr. Maria Salgado	It is of paramount importance that redistricting be done in a fair and impartial manner. Please, leave politics and partisanship out of the equation.
2143		Aug 5 2017 11:33AM	Ms. Hendey Buckley, J.D.	NC voters deserve a process for drawing political district maps that is fair and open; avoids racial or partisan gerrymandering; and allows voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around. I urge you to follow best practices for drawing nonpartisan districts. These include criteria that districts must be: Compact, coinciding with cities and towns and avoiding splitting counties; Contiguous, meaning that the districts are not merely joined at the corners; Follow state and federal law, such as the Voting Rights Act; and Ignore all partisan factors such as voter registration, voter turnout, past election results, and the residence of incumbents.
2144		Aug 5 2017 11:35AM	Mrs. Carolee Morris	Vote to establish and support the non-partisan Commission to do re-districting maps. It is a good solution, if not skewed in some way.
2145		Aug 5 2017 11:37AM	Ms. Jim Selby	Redistricting should be done by an impartial third party and proceed without implicit preference to any political party due to racial or political consideration.
2146		Aug 5 2017 11:38AM	Mr. Robert O'Connor	We deserve fair redistricting not a phony map like the last with rigged elections!!!! Let the people decide not a few well paid legislators.
2147		Aug 5 2017 11:44AM	Dr. Thomas Jackson	Anything less than a nonpartisan redistricting commission at this point would simply perpetuate this self-destructive political football game!
2148		Aug 5 2017 11:49AM	Ms. Laura Bach	Our state's lawmakers have demonstrated time and time again, on both sides of the aisle, that neither Democrats nor Republicans should be trusted nor tasked with determining the size and shape of North Carolina's voting districts. The time has come to show the rest of our country just how impartial and bipartisan our deeply diverse state can be. I call for the establishment of an independent council for the purposes of determining how the voting districts in North Carolina should be drawn, ensuring that the new boundaries be established in order to best serve all North Carolinians, and for complete transparency both during the establishment of said council and while our new voting map is being created. Racism is a blight that our state has been choking on for centuries, and archaic fears still have too many imaginary teeth. Let's work together, with integrity and honor, to finally kill the social monsters
2149		Aug 5 2017 12:03PM	Dr. Amanda Ball	We need a non-partisan re districting commission to draw the maps for the elections. As long as they continue to be drawn by partisan politicians of either party they will be biased. The districts should be non-biased so the representatives elected from those districts represent the voters from that district. Please end gerrymandering and create non-partisan election districts. Thank you.
2150		Aug 5 2017 12:04PM	Mr. Brian Manly	Please relinquish control of district voting maps to a non-partisan committee. Representatives should not be allowed to draw their own districts; they are to be chosen by the people, not vice versa. Elected representatives should not be allowed to choose their voters. This sets up a perverse insensitive that allows rampant Gerrymandering by which ever party is in power, democrats or republicans. This is significant threat to our very democracy based on free and fair elections. Please do the right thing for our state. Thank you

2151		Aug 5 2017 12:12PM	Mr. Kay Overcash	I support geographically sensible districts that follow state and federal law without regard to partisan considerations.
2152		Aug 5 2017 12:22PM	Mr. John Foy	<p>NC's lawmakers have demonstrated repeatedly that neither Democrats nor Republicans should be trusted nor tasked with determining the size and shape of North Carolina's voting districts. The time has come to show the rest of our country just how impartial and bipartisan our deeply diverse state can be.</p> <p>I call for the establishment of an independent council for the purposes of determining how the voting districts in North Carolina should be drawn, ensuring that the new boundaries be established in order to best serve all North Carolinians, and for complete transparency both during the establishment of said council and while our new voting map is being created.</p> <p>Let us demonstrate to the nation that there is nothing to fear from impartial, independent redistricting, and in the process let us show that more importantly, there is nothing to fear from ending this great</p>
2153		Aug 5 2017 12:44PM	Pattie Kline	My current district contains me in a sliver running up from a conservative republican county area. This dilutes the more liberal Democrat vote. It should definitely be changed to better reflect the constituents' views and concerns.
2154		Aug 5 2017 12:44PM	Ms. Heather Huggett	I'd love Northern Durham to be represented in the State.... thanks!
2155		Aug 5 2017 12:47PM	Mrs. Rebecca Bburmester	As a citizen believer in the concept/ideal of representational democracy, I strongly believe that NC should have a bipartisan redistricting committee separate from the whims of political majorities. Each vote should count equally. Districts should be as compact as population distribution will allow. Thank you
2156		Aug 5 2017 12:50PM	Ms. Therese Duffy	Stop gerrymandering. Create Nonpartisan group made up of diverse citizens to redraw map of NC districts. Politicians.must not draw map.
2157		Aug 5 2017 12:54PM	Jean Scholz	Please work to redisrict NC so it is fair to all people
2158		Aug 5 2017 12:56PM	Dr. Scott D Cobourn	Make us a true democracy again. No partisan games. Repair our voting districts now. We deserved nothing less.
2159		Aug 5 2017 1:03PM	Mr. Geoffrey Chenger	I moved to North Carolina in Feb 2015 from West Virginia. When I arrived, I was shocked at how gerrymandered these districts were/are. I am now outraged. My tax dollars are paying to marginalize my voice, and this partisan gerrymandering is one of the major reasons that North Carolina is no longer recognized as a full democracy. I am asking that the redistricting be done to maximized the representation of the voters, not for political gain. I want this process taken out of the hands of elected officials and political parties, and done (as it is in about 20 other states) independently. I am also asking for an amendment to the state constitution banning partisan gerrymandering permanently. (Thus solving the problem for either party). I will be watching the results. The if the districts end up 10-3 Republican, you will be hearing from me and many others in the voting booth, and maybe in court. This state has more like a 7-6 breakdown by voters, and that is what I am looking to see. This whole process is sickening, and the manipulation of these districts should not be a tool for partisan gain. As I said before, I am paying for you to minimize my voice. That is totally unacceptable to me, and embarrassment to the state, and a disguising prevision of the nation's founding principals. Please get this right this time... NO PARTISAN ADVANTAGE!!!
2160		Aug 5 2017 1:04PM	Mrs. Alice Cox	The state's redistricting should be done without bias to urban or rural districts. An algorithm that is not set up to create bias for one political party, race, sex or religion should be developed. This is a very complicated issue and should be studied carefully. The final answer should be presented by a non-partisan group that takes all this into consideration
2161		Aug 5 2017 1:07PM	Diane Umstead	Pls make districts fair for each person's vote to not be stacked based on party lines.
2162		Aug 5 2017 1:20PM	Ken Krebs	<p>What are the criteria being used to draw the new districts? What do these new districts look like?</p> <p>The current districts are an insult to democracy and any reasonable person.</p>
2163		Aug 5 2017 1:24PM	Ms. Helen Wolfson	<p>The fact that Tom Hofeller, who was involved in drawing the unconstitutional 2011 maps, has been hired to help draw the new maps makes the current process suspect from the beginning. Once these maps have been drawn, the legislature should establish an independent commission to redraw future district maps. Currently, our politicians are choosing their voters rather than the voters choosing their politicians. This process has got to change if we are to preserve democracy.</p> <p>While the current problems stem from racial gerrymandering, NC should explore ways to draw maps that minimize partisan gerrymandering as well. Nicholas Stephanopoulos and Eric McGhee have developed a system for measuring wasted votes (all votes cast for a losing candidates and all votes beyond those needed to win for a winning candidate) that could go a long way to providing fair maps. The fact that so many of our candidates run unopposed is an informal measure of how much our districts are gerrymandered to the benefit of one party or the other.</p> <p>Fair maps is an idea that all North Carolinians can support. No one party will be in power forever. It is to our collective advantage to</p>

2164		Aug 5 2017 1:56PM	Ms. Karen McMahon	I would suggest that the Governor appoint, with input from the General Assembly, a bipartisan restricting commission to be responsible for the redrawing of all legislative districts. All districts should be drawn, to the fullest extent possible, to reflect geographic divisions and maximize the opportunity for truly competitive races.
2165		Aug 5 2017 2:01PM	Jason Pikler	Now is the time to embrace an independent, nonpartisan commission to draw fair, competitive districts and put an end to racial and partisan gerrymandering. The fact that both parties have engaged in gerrymandering doesn't make it right. Let's be better than that and create legislative/judicial districts that finally comply with constitutional standards and that are competitive. If the current legislators are unable to do so, it's time to turn things over to an independent commission. And guess what, one already exists and has already drawn new maps: https://sanford.duke.edu/articles/nonpartisan-redistricting-panel-reveals-unofficial-nc-congressional-voting-map
2166		Aug 5 2017 2:05PM	Candace Carraway	The people of NC do not want districts that give an unfair advantage to any particular group of voters, even if that turns out to be legal. We want compact districts that make sense geographically, and that comply with the law. If you want all of NC voters to have confidence in the fairness of the voting system, start by drawing districts that do not favor Republicans or Democrats, whites or people of color. Feeling that your vote does not count and does not make a difference is a recipe for anger and getting discouraged. You need to do everything possible to encourage voting and encourage a sense of us being in this together. Gerrymandering makes people feel fragmented and divided.
2167		Aug 5 2017 2:10PM	Mrs. Mary Shulby	Please FAIRLYredistrict this time. I am tired of the Rebuglicans having the advantage due to the way the maps are drawn. I am tired of no one being able to work TOGETHER for the good of our state!
2168		Aug 5 2017 2:18PM	Dr. Gwendolyn Wilkes	Lines must be drawn objectively drawn and follow these parameters: 1. Be compact and contiguous 2. Follow state and federal law 3. Be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout and where the incumbent lives
2169		Aug 5 2017 2:23PM	Mrs. Renee Scaggs	General redistricting should be done by a nonpartisan committee or organization in order to keep politicians from being able to draw maps to control the outcome of elections.
2170		Aug 5 2017 2:25PM	Mr. Phillip Scaggs	General redistricting should be done by a non-partisan committee/organization to keep politicians from being able to draw maps to control the outcome of elections. Let's end gerrymandering in NC!
2171		Aug 5 2017 2:32PM	Michael Sulewski	Thank You for taking comments on this. As someone who does not work in any sort of political arena, I would like to put forward some basic logic I think the maps should use to avoid future problems. They should not divide counties. I believe that current borders, should remain whole. Dissecting counties like a science experiment makes no logical sense, other than to try to "swing" an election one way or another. It is obvious. Also, it should not matter who lives in what area. Simply assign the districts to best divide the population equally among our representatives.This makes the redrawing simple, easy, and saves time and money. Thank You
2172		Aug 5 2017 2:41PM	Ashley Birk	The racial gerrymandering in this state is disgraceful. I only had one choice on my election ballot in this last election; we're defined so well for the political majority nobody else even bothers running. Get us into even, fair election districts! And if the legislature is not able to do that - and I'm not sure you are - then turn our redistricting over to an independent commission. Sincerely, Ashley Birk
2173		Aug 5 2017 2:50PM	Ms. Pamela Cook	Districts must be drawn in a contiguous, compact manner, without regard to race, party affiliation or voting history!
2174		Aug 5 2017 2:57PM	Ms. Donna Kerr	They should be compact and not influenced by political affiliation or voting history
2175		Aug 5 2017 2:58PM	Ms. Penny McGhee	I believe redistricting should be handled by a non-partisan entity. That is the only way to ensure that one party does not benefit from redistricting.
2176		Aug 5 2017 3:07PM	Tracy Tullish	Partisan politicians should not play a role in drawing district lines. We should follow best practices followed by others. We should not have extreme shaped districts like snakes etc that purposely grouplike citizens. I would think county lines make good boundaries and may make much more sense. Thanks
2177		Aug 5 2017 3:09PM	Ms. martha ollis	Screw all of the districting, redistricting, gerrymandering by politicians and other obstruction of voting. We want one person one vote with verifiable paper ballots. We are tired of having our vote watered down by unfair manipulation.
2178		Aug 5 2017 3:10PM	Anna Brown	It is way past time to address the rampant redistricting abuses. Draw the districts to make sense geographically NOT politically! We, the people, are watching.

2179		Aug 5 2017 3:54PM	Eileen Hume	Redistricting should be done by a scientific algorithm, not either party. This is a no brainer.
2180		Aug 5 2017 4:06PM	Mr. Parris Smallwood	To whom it may concern: I objectively analyzed publicly available election data to support my comments below. I am a registered Democrat in the state of North Carolina. - In the 2016 election, 47.4% of votes were cast for NC State House of Representative candidates formally affiliated with the Democratic Party. Democrats hold 38.3% of that chamber's seats. - In the 2016 election, 44.4% of votes were cast for NC State Senate candidates formally affiliated with the Democratic Party. Democrats hold 30.0% of that chamber's seats. - In the 2016 election, 46.6% of votes were cast for NC Federal House of Representative candidates formally affiliated with the Democratic Party. Democrats hold 3 of those 13 seats (23.1%) Districts drawn for the purposes of electoral representation at both the state and federal levels MUST reasonably and accurately represent the people of the state as a whole. It is clear from the key points from my analysis (see above) that the current districts have been drawn not only out of sync with the electoral reality, but also potentially intentionally to serve a Republican party agenda. I base this accusation on the facts presented above as well as the following key data points: - Including races in which either a Republican or Democratic incumbent was running unopposed, Republican candidates who were elected to the NC State House of Representatives won by an average margin of 54.4% while Democrats won by an average margin of 74.20%.
2181		Aug 5 2017 4:27PM	Mrs. Denise Zavaleta	The people deserve to be represented without gerrymandering and political influence over the opportunity of a fair election. The current maps blatantly are decisive towards lumping a demographic into a minority situation. North Carolina is better than this so we need new maps immediately and stop wasting taxpayer money that schools and infrastructure need to continue to fight lawsuits aimed at doing anything other than what is right! New maps now which are fair to the people who maintain this state.
2182		Aug 5 2017 4:40PM	Ms. Patricia Lester	I am a North Carolina voter, and I firmly believe that all voters deserve a process for drawing political district maps that is fair and open, one that avoids racial or partisan gerrymandering, and one that allows VOTERS and not legislators to pick their political representatives.
2183		Aug 5 2017 4:54PM	Chad Eby	It's time for both parties to lead and get this right. Our districts have been an embarrassment for decades, regardless of whom is in control. My single issue in the next election is independent redistricting. If you have the courage to put your neck on the line, you'll have my vote for this election cycle. https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2014/06/03/this-computer-programmer-solved-gerrymandering-in-his-spare-time/?utm_term=.5b6a34cb33f1
2184		Aug 5 2017 4:55PM	Mr. James Herrmann	The law you need to pass would be to use a computer algorithm to generate districts with the required number of voters that has the smallest perimeter. It's that simple. That will keep the districts as compact and fair as possible.
2185		Aug 5 2017 5:00PM	Mrs. Sandi Spier	I am very glad that maps will be redrawn, but this needs to be done by a non-partisan 3rd party. There is no reason politician should have this task. They've proven they can't handle this responsibility without gerrymandering. They need to be fairly redrawn so election results are true and not planned out ahead of time. Thank you.
2186		Aug 5 2017 5:13PM	Mr. Jim Quick	When considering map changes I encourage you to keep counties in the same district when possible. In addition please keep cities and towns as whole as possible. Map should respect communities of interest and race should not be a factor in the drawing of legislative districts.
2187		Aug 5 2017 5:18PM	Dr. Jenny Hinson	I'm asking that we re-draw districts to not benefit either party, which would include making districts geographically contiguous and not artificially dividing municipalities.
2188		Aug 5 2017 5:19PM	Dr. Duane Deardorff	Please use non-partisan criteria for drawing legislative district maps. All voters should have their vote count in a meaningful way.
2189		Aug 5 2017 5:29PM	Ferne Emery	Redistricting should be done using a computer algorithm. It should divide the state up in equal portions that allows for open elections.
2190		Aug 5 2017 5:30PM	Mrs. Joanne Empie	I am pleased with my current Republican legislator who was elected under the current maps and have good communication. I believe the General Assembly followed the guidelines they had available in drawing the districts and it is their responsibility to do so, not the court. I support the current maps if they meet the law. Counties and cities and towns should be kept whole if possible.

2191		Aug 5 2017 5:47PM	Thomas Young	I believe in each session since the early 90's a bill requesting an independent commission be formed to determine district lines has been introduced. Often with a majority of legislators co sponsoring. Yet it never makes it out of committee. Why? Fear. Fear of losing power and control. Often with the arrogant view of "knowing what is best" for the citizens of North Carolina. With the advances in data collection the practice of redistricting has become more detailed and precise. It is time to use common sense. It is time to be bold and return the power of voting to the people. Time to allow a truer form of democracy to prevail without fearing the outcome. Use an independent commission. There are computer programs designed to assist with the process. Thank you.
2192		Aug 5 2017 6:24PM	Alyssa Riddle	Please turn over redistricting to an independent, non-partisan committee subject to NC public records laws to make sure the entire process is completely transparent. Please pass legislation that makes it illegal to gerrymander based on political party and look to local universities to help determine criteria for redrawing districts in a way that is free of bias or political slant. Between NC State's advanced analytics program and UNC's public policy programs, you ought to be able to find talent to lead the process. Let's have North Carolina establish itself as a leader in districting best practices! I love our state and hope that this will help our state move forward from the past--
2193		Aug 5 2017 6:26PM	Dr. Barbara Coulter	Redistricting should be conducted by a non-partisan, independent committee, using objective measures to identify criteria for what constitutes a balanced district. Available research and literature on non-partisan redistricting should guide the General Assembly's decisions in the matter.
2194		Aug 5 2017 6:29PM	Ms. Samantha Powers-Narvila	Gerrymandering it's just another way for politicians to reinforce racial and socioeconomic biases. North Carolina is a fantastic state that should not have a hand in this. I hope our politicians take our comments seriously.
2195		Aug 5 2017 6:31PM	Mr. Frederick Bingham	Please try as hard as you can to make *competitive* districts. We need redistricting that does not favor one party over the other, or that protects incumbents from being challenged. In making districts, ignore where incumbents live, race, party affiliation or socioeconomic status. The state legislature should represent *all* residents and voters, The votes of all voters should actually make a difference to the outcome. Please do not turn redistricting into a hyperpartisan circus like the legislature has become. In the future, turn redistricting over to a non-partisan commission separate from the legislature.
2196		Aug 5 2017 6:35PM	Ms. Jean Archer	Please appoint an independent commission to draw a district map that will result in more fair representation for all North Carolinians. I realize that it will take great courage for you to gamble that your own party may be adversely affected by letting an independent commission do this work but I trust that you can people the people of our state ahead of your political party. Thank you.
2197		Aug 5 2017 7:05PM	Mrs. Erin Moore	We are literally a laughing stock of the entire country right now. Sure democrats did this a while back but right now the republicans are in power and pushing their agenda. It doesn't do any good to not name names here. Our state is so unique, it is truly divided 50/50 but our government representation doesn't represent that at all. Give the people a true voice and prove you are not so selfish and cowardly to strip us of that for your personal profit. We are in a unique position to set the bar, make the districts fair, make it illegal to ever manipulate them again. Win back the trust of the people in a fair and true way and you won't need to hide behind gerrymandering and underhanded tactics to gain power. Prove we are a voice of the people, ready to lead the country as a beacon of unity.
2198		Aug 5 2017 7:12PM	Ms. Toni Wiker	End gerrymandered districts. Voting needs to count equally for everyone who casts a value. That is what a democracy is built upon.
2199		Aug 5 2017 7:13PM	Dr. Alison Stuebe	As a North Carolina citizen, I strongly urge our state legislature to create compact nonpartisan districts that comply with the Voting Rights Act so that we can have a representative government in our state. The gerrymandering of this occurred in the state is a national embarrassment; please, support democracy and create districts that are of, by and for the people of North Carolina.
2200		Aug 5 2017 7:24PM	Mr. Stephen Tillman	The eyes of North Carolina and the nation are on you, and what and how you deal with this will determine many things. Hopefully this is pressing in your minds as you act. Maybe you're pressured by faction or belief, this is believable. Yet naked power grabs like what you've already attempted will fail. Don't try this again. If you can't win on the strength of your beliefs or the ability to sell them, you don't deserve to win. Modify the system to protect yourself, and you will expose the nihilism of those beliefs. The young already don't believe you, and they outnumber you. Choose your course wisely.

2201		Aug 5 2017 7:45PM	Mr. Kenneth Presting	<p>My own training is in philosophy rather than in law, but I wanted to share a certain line of argument with you that might be useful either in the Legislature or in legal action.</p> <p>Most arguments about redistricting have focused on its outcome: gerrymandered districts, and whether they are constitutional. It is also possible to look at the process of redistricting, which produces this questionable outcome, and ask if that process is itself questionable. So I want to raise the question, “Is partisan redistricting an instance of self-dealing by the legislators?” Or in other words,: Could a case be made, that legislators are improperly using their office to obtain a material benefit for themselves when they define their own election districts? It is common to observe that voters should choose their legislators, not the other way around. But it occurs to me that there is a more substantive way to read that word “should,” which is a word that draws immediate attention from any philosophy major.</p> <p>The US Constitution does not get into specifics about self-dealing by state legislators, but a useful summary outline of federal concepts is here: https://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/directories/roli/raca/asia_raca_prof_hutter_prosecuting.authcheckdam.pdf</p> <p>The NC Statutes seem to contain some relevant material here, under “Use of Public Position for Private Gain”: http://www.ncleg.net/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/PDF/ByArticle/Chapter_138A/Article_4.pdf</p> <p>It could be argued that the NC Constitution gives the legislature the responsibility to create election districts. But every official position has responsibilities, and none of them are ever to be used for personal gain. Voters deserve a process for drawing political maps that is fair and open. It should avoid racial and partisan gerrymandering and will allow VOTERS to pick their political representatives, not as it now stands. politicians nicking their voters!</p>
2202		Aug 5 2017 8:00PM	Mrs. Robin Hall	<p>I'd like to encourage you to consider the following points when redistricting:</p> <p>Compact, coinciding with cities and towns and avoiding splitting counties;</p> <p>Contiguous, meaning that the districts are not merely joined at the corners;</p> <p>Follow state and federal law, such as the Voting Rights Act; and</p> <p>Ignore all partisan factors such as voter registration, voter turnout, past election results, and the residence of incumbents.</p>
2203		Aug 5 2017 8:02PM	Kimberly Swanson	<p>Hi,</p> <p>Please watch this instructional video on how to impartially redistrict the state. It can be re-implemented when necessary.</p> <p>Please feel free to share this video with your constituents.</p> <p>https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=kUS9uvYyn3A</p> <p>And please do NOT redraw the districts yourselves.</p> <p>Thank you!</p>
2204		Aug 5 2017 8:05PM	Mr. McLeod Phillips	<p>The State legislature needs to redraw the legislative districts to eliminate the existing bias and partisan segmentation.</p> <p>NC voters deserve a process for drawing political district maps that is fair and open; avoids racial or partisan gerrymandering; and allows voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around.</p>
2205		Aug 5 2017 8:19PM	Keith Bell	
2206		Aug 5 2017 8:33PM	Mr. Robert Hall	
2207		Aug 5 2017 8:40PM	Mrs. Billie Porter	<p>I want to see these criteria used to create maps for NC Senate and House seats:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Compliance with the US Constitution and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 2. Districts with equal population to the greatest extent possible 3. Districts that are geographically compact and contiguous 4. Competitive districts to the greatest extent possible, as long as there’s no detriment to other criteria 5. Districts that are NOT established with the major purpose of diluting the voting strength of any people or groups, including any political party 6. Boundaries that respect communities of interest; specifically areas with shared social and economic interests, such as those shared by an agricultural community, an industrial area, or an area in which people share local natural resources for their livelihood (for example, fishing in coastal areas)
2208		Aug 5 2017 8:45PM	Jorie Walker	<p>Criterion for construction of NC legislative districts: Maintaining or establishing a partisan advantage shall NOT be a criterion for the construction or approval of House and Senate district plans.</p> <p>NC citizens want districts that are compact, contiguous, and drawn without consideration for past voter turn out or registration. We need lawful, non biased districts drawn asap!</p>
2209		Aug 5 2017 9:09PM	Ms. Mercedes Fisher	<p>Partisan Gerrymandering Must End. Partisan gerrymandering is entirely contrary to the foundations of our Democracy.</p>
2210		Aug 5 2017 9:11PM	Mrs. Jen Rao	

2211		Aug 5 2017 9:13PM	Ms. Betty McGuire	The Legislature has a unique opportunity to redraw the Senate and House Districts in a fair way. It is time to do it without protecting incumbents or aiming at partisan advantage. Yes the Democrats did it but theirs was primitive compared to how it can be done now with computer software that knows everything. Just follow the rules; the number of voters per district, keep counties whole, no boundary lines that only barely touch, no squigly, odd shapes. Just neat compact districts
2212		Aug 5 2017 9:19PM	Mrs. Jennifer Deese	We need competitively drawn districts that force representatives to listen to constituents of various backgrounds. Districts should not ever be drawn singlehandedly by any one party, to the detriment of other parties.
2213		Aug 5 2017 9:25PM	Mr. Adrian Lapas	I support an independent commission to re-draw the electoral districts in North Carolina. Since both Republicans and Democrats have accused the other of gerrymandering, it is clear that this critical feature of democracy has been perverted in the hands of partisans. As the courts have determined that racial gerrymandering and political gerrymandering has been attempted if not necessarily achieved, through partisan redistricting, large swaths of our citizenry are potentially (perhaps effectively) left without a voice as to their own well-being. This is intolerable. The only way to restore our state (and nation) to a functioning democracy is to put redistricting into the hands of an independent commission. Let the respective parties compete on ideas and candidates instead of the issue being a foregoing conclusion with "safe" districts. This is the only way that elected officials will remember that the represent an entire district--not just those who are voting them in office.
2214		Aug 5 2017 9:36PM	Ms. Jill Blumenthal	I advocate for a fairer process. Politicians should not be drawing these maps, since both Democrats and Republicans have gerrymandered districts to benefit their own party. Our voting districts should be unbiased and nonpartisan. They should also make sense - zip codes should be kept together whenever possible. Although the recent court order requires immediate action, a process should be created so that in the future, a nonpartisan commission creates the districts and gives the public adequate time to study and comment upon the proposed districts
2215		Aug 5 2017 10:00PM	Mrs. Sandy Purdy	We must stop gerrymandering and make our districts all over the state fair for all voters. This has nothing to do with party; it has to do with the rights of citizens, whom all of the legislators of North Carolina pledged to protect. We expect elected officials to be honest and govern with integrity
2216		Aug 5 2017 10:11PM	Mr. Andy Booth	It really is time to try some sort of nonpartisan/bipartisan redistricting system. Republicans, if they truly represent the majority of North Carolinians, should be able to win a majority of seats without having to resort to subterfuge and geographical contortions. It does not bode well that the legislators have selected Tom Hofeller to undertake the procedure. Surely there are enough folks in Raleigh who see the shortsightedness of disenfranchising large swathes of the population for short term political gain. If the legislators truly want to lead, they should lead with integrity. Step up to the plate, display Christian values that are inclusive of all voices, and do the right thing for our state. Maybe NC could once again be a leading state for honesty, probity, and principle.
2217		Aug 5 2017 10:12PM	Dr. Ginger Davis	Bring in an outside group to redraw the lines. We're obviously incapable of doing anything that's remotely fair on our own. I want to be proud of my home state, not find more and more reasons to relocate. Quite honestly, you could give a NC map to some high school students and they could do a better job. In fact, why not do that? NCSSM is a first rate public school filled with remarkably smart kids. I'm not joking. Creative responses to the dilemmas we've engendered are the only way out of the humiliation and inequality for which NC is known
2218		Aug 5 2017 10:16PM	Joanne Levitan	Our state's lawmakers have demonstrated time and time again, on both sides of the aisle, that neither Democrats nor Republicans should be trusted nor tasked with determining the size and shape of North Carolina's voting districts. The time has come to show the rest of our country just how impartial and bipartisan our deeply diverse state can be. I call for the establishment of an independent council for the purposes of detoermining how the voting districts in North Carolina should be drawn, ensuring that the new boundaries be established in order to best serve all North Carolinians, and for complete transparency both during the establishment of said council and while our new voting map is being created. Racism is a blight that our state has been choking on for centuries, and archaic fears still have too many imaginary teeth. Let's work together, with integrity and honor, to finally kill the social monsters
2219		Aug 5 2017 10:35PM	Ms. Ivy Brezina	When redrawing voting districts, please consider drawing lines that are compact and coincide with cities and towns, and don't divide counties; follow the Voting Rights Act and other state and federal law; and ignore partisan factors such as party affiliation, voter turn out, past election results, and the residence of incumbents.

2220		Aug 5 2017 10:38PM	Robert Benett	Please prove to our state and the nation that our state government isn't as full of scumbags as it appears. Be decent people and the legislators we elected and draw the district map that fairly represents all districts in North Carolina and not as a way to keep certain groups in power. If not then the change that will be needed will come during the next election when we have the opportunity to vote better people in to office than we have now. This is 2017, not 1957. Act like it!
2221		Aug 5 2017 10:41PM	Ms. Judi Bastion	It should not take a year and a court decision to draw fair districts. We can do better than this.
2222		Aug 5 2017 10:42PM	Ms. Janet Morrison	The present gerrymandered districts in NC are not only an embarrassment, they're now officially illegal. I think a non-partisan commission should redraw the district lines so as not to favor one party over the other. I have no faith in the current NC General Assembly to do this right or fairly.
2223		Aug 5 2017 11:05PM	Christian Lynch	Districts should be drawn by a non-partisan committee so that no one political party has an unfair advantage. The people of North Carolina should feel like their representatives actually represent them. It isn't right for either party to skew the redistricting in their favor.
2224		Aug 5 2017 11:15PM	Dr. Graham Hunter	I'm writing to request fair districts that allow voters to select their representatives. Consider getting a consulting firm to draw the districts, a computer model, or just drop a grid over the NC map. Just make sure it's something voters can believe in and offers a choice at general election time.
2225		Aug 5 2017 11:18PM	Mr. Ben Emery	<p>I feel this issue can be handled efficiently and transparently using a computer generated algorithm. If the algorithm was used looking at population density or some similar metric then we could eliminate the gerrymandering we've experienced over the last few decades that both parties have utilized to stay in power. I'll keep this short; the Washington Post presented a case, specifically mentioning NC and provided an illustration of what the computer drawn districts would look like. I'm including the link in this email for reference.</p> <p>https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2016/01/13/this-is-actually-what-america-would-look-like-without-gerrymandering/?utm_term=.0f43a3586987</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback. I trust you will do what is right for the state of North Carolina.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>James Benjamin Emery</p>
2226		Aug 5 2017 11:30PM	Ms. Cleo Hirsch	I really believe that this should NOT be a political process but should be done by a 3rd party that cannot immediately profit from drawing the districts in such a way that their party benefits. This runs counter to our democracy and the notion that every single citizen gets a vote, and that every vote matters FULLY.
2227		Aug 6 2017 12:03AM	Mr. Isaac Kaplan	We need an independent committee to decide redistricting. We cannot trust any of our elected officials when it comes to this. This corruption depresses me.
2228		Aug 6 2017 12:23AM	Mr. Jay Helms	Districting should be based on population and capacity of the voting facilities ONLY. Voting histories and party affiliation should not be considered. Any existing district that requires any voter to drive more than 30 minutes or wait in a line for more than an hour should be redrawn to eliminate such obstacles to our legal rights. Anything less is cowardice. If you fear you will loose or position if you do what you know is right, then be honest. Do the right thing tell your new constituents that you did. Then ask them to vote to keep you in office because you have, finally, shown good judgment. You know in your hearts that this is what freedom and democracy require.
2229		Aug 6 2017 12:26AM	Michael Ferguson	Make the districts free from party bias. Independent districts should allow representatives to represent who bites for them.
2230		Aug 6 2017 12:34AM	Mrs. Sarah Haywood-Withers	<p>I am writing to voice my concern on drawing new legislative district maps. I want to see the maps drawn to be fair and indiscriminate! Enough with gerrymandering! This is a major concern and I will be following the outcome. Please be fair!!'</p> <p>Thank you</p>
2231		Aug 6 2017 1:44AM	Dr. Geoffrey Claussen	Please use a non-partisan commission!
2232		Aug 6 2017 1:54AM	Dr. Mellinda Hansen-Holloway	Please create districts which are competitive between the various political parties. We work better as a state when all political views are represented in our governments. I'm an independent voter, and I vote!
2233		Aug 6 2017 7:17AM	Mrs. Judith Berry	You are suppose to be representing the people of North Carolina. DO IT! Draw a map that will allow all constituents an opportunity to speak. I would love to know how much tax money you have waisted on law suits you have lost. PLEASE, GIVE US A MAP THAT DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE AGAINST ANY ONE.
2234		Aug 6 2017 7:18AM	Ms. Jean Styron	I fear its going to be the same as usual republicans are going to continue their illegal ways to win and finish destroying our state as well as countrv
2235		Aug 6 2017 7:18AM	Dr. Jenica Davidson	Maintaining or establishing a partisan advantage for any party shall NOT be a criterion for the construction or approval of house and senate district plans.

2236		Aug 6 2017 7:21AM	Mr. charles bennett	<p>please fix this long-standing problem that has been abused by both Parties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be compact and contiguous Follow state and federal law Be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout and where the incumbent lives <p>This is not hard or complicated--just seemingly made so by those who want to maintain the dysfunctional status quo. thank you</p>
2237		Aug 6 2017 7:41AM	Dr. Judith Porter	Please get rid of the extremely unfair practice of gerrymandering and give us fair scientifically arrived at districts.
2238		Aug 6 2017 7:41AM	Mrs. Elizabeth Dicey	It should be done algorithmically. Not that that removes all human bias, of course, but it does help quantify it substantially. Professor Duchin at Tufts has a great group working on this already https://sites.tufts.edu/gerrymandr/ (disclosure: I have no affiliation with them)
2239		Aug 6 2017 7:48AM	Dr. David McDonald	Redistricting should be controlled by an independent panel who do not have a vested interest in the outcome. Districts should be contiguous blocks of land that actually represent the populations of our state.
2240		Aug 6 2017 7:50AM	Patricia Bass	Please make this process transparent and fair to all. Let us see the maps.
2241		Aug 6 2017 7:56AM	Jeanie and Tom Cottingham	The people of North Carolina deserve fairly drawn districts where the people choose their representatives, not representatives choosing their voters.
2242		Aug 6 2017 7:58AM	Mrs. Jessica Frega	Please use an independent group to draw new district lines. It is the most fair and accountable way to do this.
2243		Aug 6 2017 8:03AM	Ms. Renee Yost	I do not feel that cherry picking voters is fair for the betterment of our state. It is not in our best interest for either Democrats or Republicans!
2244		Aug 6 2017 8:29AM	Ms. Gail Young	Have been spending time going door to door and talking with people about gerrymandering. People are disillusioned with government, and almost universally oppose gerrymandering. They want fair competition. We don't talk party politics...only this one issue. And I live in a red county. You too can find this out....just pick any community and knock on 10 doors
2245		Aug 6 2017 8:33AM	Ms. Holly Ivel	<p>I am writing to ask the legislature take its responsibility to create and maintain voting districts in a fair and impartial way seriously. Fair and balanced voting districts are a basic foundational element of our democracy. I would ask that the Legislature look to charge a non-partisan group with work to help minimize political influence from either party.</p> <p>Please look at the work done by the Sanford School of Public Policy as an example: https://sanford.duke.edu/articles/nonpartisan-redistricting-panel-reveals-unofficial-nc-congressional-voting-map</p> <p>Their work demonstrates it is possible to use criteria for achieving equal population, compactness and comply with the Voting Rights Act, while leaving out partisan political consideration.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration. Sincerely, Holly Ivel</p>
2246		Aug 6 2017 8:37AM	Jo-Dee Collins	<p>Two wrongs don't make a right is a certain truth. The excuse of "the Democrats did it too" just doesn't hold up when you examine the data. The obscene degree in which the NCGA has gerrymandered our congressional districts is seen best through a lens of history.</p> <p>1996 6 Democrats, 6 Republicans 1998 5 Democrats, 7 Republicans 2000 5 Democrats, 7 Republicans 2002 6 Democrats, 7 Republicans 2004 6 Democrats, 7 Republicans 2006 7 Democrats, 6 Republicans 2008 8 Democrats, 5 Republicans 2010 7 Democrats, 6 Republicans 2012 4 Democrats, 9 Republicans 2014 3 Democrats, 10 Republicans 2016 3 Democrats, 10 Republicans</p> <p>The results of the 2012 election are directly correlated to dramatically racially gerrymandered districts, which have been declared illegal.</p> <p>The same methods, and indeed the same mapmaker who drew the racially biased congressional districts, applied the same approach to the state legislative districts. No wonder the court has mandated you redraw them.</p> <p>Our Democracy is healthier with real competition. If the only challenge a legislator faces happens in the primary there is effectively no competition.</p> <p>If you racially gerrymander or politically gerrymander our districts you have denied fair competition and it is fraudulent</p>

2247		Aug 6 2017 8:37AM	Dr. Laurel Voelker	<p>To Select Committee on Redistricting,</p> <p>I attended the meeting on August 4 and would like to follow up with some comments. At the meeting, several comments discussed competitiveness of legislative districts. I have done a great deal of reading (in well-referenced sources) on the topic of redistricting. There is general agreement that competitiveness in political districts increases the motivation of representatives to really listen to and serve their constituents. I think we can all agree that this is a good thing for the people of NC. Does this mean it is your responsibility to “make the minority party competitive” or to intentionally draw competitive districts at the expense of other important criteria (county/municipal boundaries, contiguity, compactness, communities of interest)? In my opinion, no. I don’t think political affiliation or voting history should be part of this process for any reason. However, this committee should not PREVENT competition. Previous plans have done just that. Draw the districts based on the important criteria of adherence to federal laws (VRA), keeping counties/cities intact, contiguous and compact districts, and consideration of communities of interest. Do not consider the addresses of incumbents or challengers, voter affiliation, or voting history for any reason.</p> <p>The most important characteristic of the redistricting process is transparency. Thank you for planning the public meetings and sharing some information. However, you have not gone nearly far enough. For example, at the meeting on August 4, you shared what you believed were the “optimal county groupings.” True transparency would mean that you shared all the maps you considered before settling on the one we saw. True transparency means that you provide a written justification for the map you chose. Being “based on mathematics” is not a sufficient explanation. True transparency STOP gerrymandering!!! I think you should just use the already drawn 100 county lines. If not then computer generated. We are sick and tired of this legislature rigging our lives for their benefit.</p>
2248		Aug 6 2017 8:57AM	Mrs. Deborah Haworth	Please, please use an independent commission!! Stop all gerrymandering!
2249		Aug 6 2017 9:01AM	Tim Paull	Shame on you for illegally gerrymandering our districts! You have turned our democracy into a sham. Our elections must be fair to ALL North Carolinians not just the ones you agree with. Do the right thing and draw fair mans!
2250		Aug 6 2017 9:01AM	Liz Millsaps	Anyone can see that the current maps are drawn to create an unfair advantage. In fact, they are illegal maps. They need to be drawn fairly, without targeting a specific group of people (black voters, for example). We have all types of groups and neighborhoods represented across NC. All of those need to be fairly represented and have easy access to voting. If you are afraid to draw fair maps because you might lose, then are you really doing a good job in the first place? It isn't really winning if you cheated to win.
2251		Aug 6 2017 9:10AM	Ms. Lorri Barrier	The most realistic/fair method I have seen is the map drawn up by the non-partisan panel of 10 retired NC judges comprising of an equal number of Democrats and Republicans led by former N.C. Supreme Court Chief Justices Rhoda Billinas and Henry Frve.
2252		Aug 6 2017 9:21AM	Mr. kevin moran	Here in the Triangle we host some of the most advanced IT firms and educational institutions. There is no excuse for this state to continue to use partisan gerrymandered districts when fairly drawn districts are easily obtainable.
2253		Aug 6 2017 9:25AM	Ms. Amy McKeown	Our state's lawmakers have demonstrated time and time again, on both sides of the aisle, that neither Democrats nor Republicans should be trusted nor tasked with determining the size and shape of North Carolina's voting districts. The time has come to show the rest of our country just how impartial and bipartisan our deeply diverse state can be.
2254		Aug 6 2017 9:25AM	Ms. Christine Yablonski	<p>We should utilize an independent council for the purposes of determining how the voting districts in North Carolina should be drawn, ensuring that the new boundaries be established in order to best serve all North Carolinians, and for complete transparency both during the establishment of the council and while our new voting map is being created.</p> <p>I'm frustrated that our legislators waste time and money trying to push forward an unethical racist agenda that the courts repeatedly declare</p>
2255		Aug 6 2017 9:28AM	Mrs. Keren Rotberg	It is time to be non-partisan, and remember we are all Americans. Make this fair for all regardless of party or the year of elections. All Americans should be fairly represented. We elect people to serve everyone, NOT THEMSELVES. Time to look in the mirror and see what you are choosing to do.
2256		Aug 6 2017 9:34AM	Ms. Sharon Garner	Gerrymandering is a pure demonstration that the legislature does not actually believe in democracy, and I say this regardless of which party is doing it. In this day and age, a computer should easily be able to generate districts meeting necessary criteria (number of people, access to polling places, etc) while still keeping the districts compact and reasonable and without in any way being influenced by political considerations. I would like to think that humans could do that too but so far the legislature is proving me wrong. Show this state that you can be real representatives of the people and not just politicians.
2257		Aug 6 2017 9:36AM	Ms. Gennie Poe	Please have a commission appointed to redistrict the voting map of NC.

2258	Aug 6 2017 9:40AM	Dr. Katherine Armstrong	I am totally against gerrymandering. There should be no emphasis to make an area a Republican or Democrat District. I want to vote for the person I feel is most qualified. I vote in every election. When a district is tilted to one party there is no choice, my vote has no meaning.
2259	Aug 6 2017 9:44AM	Kelly Dickinson	It's time we redrew the lines for North Carolina.
2260	Aug 6 2017 9:46AM	Mr. Peter Bloomfield	The districts in the new maps should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be compact and contiguous; • Follow state and federal law; • Be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout and where the incumbent lives.
2261	Aug 6 2017 9:54AM	Sharon Spry	Pass NC House Bill 92 to establish an independent Nonpartisan Redistricting Commission. Establish districts that strive to include relatively equal numbers of registered Republicans, Democrats and Unaffiliated voters.
2262	Aug 6 2017 10:05AM	Susanna Dancy	Instead of creating maps that serve political parties, please create maps that respect the intelligence of North Carolinians to vote for representatives who will stand up for their values and interests, rather than serving special interests or the extremes of either party. Some areas of the state are more conservative and some are more liberal, but few are all one or the other, yet you wouldn't know that by looking at our general election results. Please create districts that are compact and that comply with existing boundaries -- county, town/city, voting precincts -- to the extent possible, so that locals are electing their representatives, rather than mapmakers and the special interests of political parties. Political affiliation, voting history and race should not play any part in redistricting. Once fair maps are drawn, North Carolinians will have confidence that they are being governed by the people instead of by the extremes in either party. Please make North Carolina great again.
2263	Aug 6 2017 10:10AM	Mr. Robert Ligon	The NCGA's effective efforts to circumvent the will of the North Carolina electorate in recent years has not gone unnoticed... both in our state and nationally. Continuing down the path of gerrymandering and packing districts will continue to breed anger and resentment among the underrepresented and will undermine our democracy. If partisan interests do not have the integrity, will and moral fortitude to more fairly draw voting districts, perhaps independent, nonpartisan bodies should be tasked with this job.
2264	Aug 6 2017 10:19AM	Mrs. Janet Farmer	I firmly believe that voting districts should be determined by population count only. Demographics should not play a part. Redistricting should be non-racial and non-partisan.
2265	Aug 6 2017 10:25AM	Mrs. Jennifer De La Jara	There should be an independent committee for drawing districts. What has happened in NC a a travesty. Districts should represent WHOLE communities so that that the whole of the communities' needs are addressed.
2266	Aug 6 2017 10:52AM	Mr. Lemuel S. IV Blades	i am in favor of an independent commission to deal with redistricting. NC politics is going to the dogs with its partisan bickering and divide and i've registered as an "unaffiliated" as a result. help!
2267	Aug 6 2017 11:01AM	Ms. Karen Maravich	Our state leaders on both sides of the parties have proven again and again that they cannot be trusted with legislative redistricting. Is this how we will be remembered in history? As the state that provided the blueprint for cheating via gerrymandering? <p>Here's my solution: there must be a be an independent council to determine districts and/or a basic computer algorithm should be utilized to verify balance with redistricting.</p> <p>This is the only way to return to equality and integrity in NC.</p>
2268	Aug 6 2017 11:19AM	Ms. Amy Kidd	I'd like you to perform the legislative redistricting in a way that actually makes sense, is racially unbiased and is fair, rather than a way that is racially skewed and performed with the laser-focused intent of guaranteeing that only Republican candidates will be able to win House and Senate elections. You work for the citizens of North Carolina; draw the districts fairly and let the citizens decide who we want representing us!
2269	Aug 6 2017 11:24AM	Mr. J. William Hays	We should have special elections and we really need non-partisan districting.
2270	Aug 6 2017 11:33AM	Sarah Grossman	As neither side of the aisle has been able to draw districts that are fair and balanced I believe a nonpartisan committee should be used to redraw the districts.
2271	Aug 6 2017 12:12PM	Dr. Anne Marie Rakip	This map is crazy. It is obvious to all of the voters out here watching what you are doing that you are working the voting districts to satisfy your party. Please stop! Start acting on behalf of your country, state and the individuals you work for (voters) and do what is right. All of this nonsense is not moving our country forward. Please reach into your heart and soul and do the right thing - because it is the right thing and not what special interest groups want you to do. Thank you.
2272	Aug 6 2017 12:16PM	Mindy Bohlen-Admire	Please- adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps; • draw compact districts that keep communities together. Let's make NC a fair state for our elections/voters. Thank you! Mindy Lisa
2273	Aug 6 2017 12:17PM	Mr. Louis Pitts	Redistricting needs to be done in a manner that allows for a fair and balanced system. No one political party should be able to dictate all outcomes, which has been shown not to be the case in NC.

2274		Aug 6 2017 12:41PM	Ms. Lisa Yoder	This needs to be done in absolute terms. A real count and district-ed out in an even number no matter what party individuals belong too and in a fairly even cut of areas. None of this manipulating with more repubs in any given district, unless it happpens in a natural binary shape. If a 50 square mile of any cut is majority republican, then so be it, same with democrat. Keep your manipulated, gerrymandered fingers out of the mix. An area should be represented by who THEY choose, not politicians 'choosing' their voters. Common sense people!
2275		Aug 6 2017 1:11PM	Kelly Pierson	An independent commission is the best way forward to redraw the voting district map for North Carolina. Please keep in mind that your main responsibility requires being of service to the citizens, all citizens, of North Carolina, not service to a political party. This responsibility may require persistence and fortitude, but the result is doing what is best for all North Carolinians. Thank you.
2276		Aug 6 2017 1:21PM	Ms. Leslie Hagarty	It's time for fair redistricting maps. We are paying attention and will vote for those who promote fair district maps.
2277		Aug 6 2017 1:47PM	Mrs. Deborah Bundy	I request that an outside, non-political firm do the redistricting. I'm very disappointed in the Republican racial districting that has happened. I am a registered Republican, but will be voting for not one Republican candidate in future elections, until this vile practice has been stopped.
2278		Aug 6 2017 1:53PM	Mrs. Heather Harvey	The racist, anti progressive redistricting must stop. For shame. Please, please, please create a strongly independent process for district creation.
2279		Aug 6 2017 2:05PM	Mrs. Lauren Tompkins	As a resident of North Carolina, I would like to see an end to racial gerrymandering through the state's redistricting process, so that no system is rigged towards favoring one political party over another, thus ensuring that voters choose their representing politicians and not the other way around. Every voter in North Carolina has the right to be heard, regardless of his/her/their zip code, socioeconomic standing, religion, and ethnicity.
2280		Aug 6 2017 2:26PM	Deana Cunningham	It is time to take redistricting out of the hands of the political parties and into the hands of a nonpartisan commission that bases districts on population instead of voting demographics. Let the people chose their politicians - not the politicians chose their people.
2281		Aug 6 2017 2:41PM	Mr. Manuel Hernandez	You might throw this away, because I'm in Mass., but remember that we invented Gerrymandering. I may know something. Someone has shown me a map of the N.C. 21st District; and it's offensive at first glance. Districts should be "compact and contiguous." This one is obviously not compact, and having far-flung parts connected by what looks on the map like maybe one road is a technical evasion: it's not honestly contiguous. This is to ask you to treat the drawing of districts as a serious, non-partisan issue and, as I said, honestly. This something you owe to the whole state, and really, the country, which is why I'm signing in.
2282		Aug 6 2017 2:51PM	Mrs. Angela Levine	Redistricting must be done in a non-partisan way in order to be fair and completely transparent. Having a previous map making draw these new maps will not work. If you want your constituents to have faith in the process and in you in general, you need to establish a bipartisan commission to develop fair maps. That is truly the only way the maps can be acceptable to all people in the state.
2283		Aug 6 2017 2:54PM	Mr. Joseph Moody	Iredell County should not be split into so many Districts. It is a highly populated county and should have a representative just for Iredell county.
2284		Aug 6 2017 3:27PM	Mrs. Claire Ricci	We deserve districts that are fairly drawn and not designed to skew things in a particular party's favor. Please do the right thing and return our state to a functioning democracy.
2285		Aug 6 2017 3:33PM	Mr. Ralph Norman Hill	As a citizen of North Carolina, I would love to see a non-partisan commission draw legislative districts based primarily on existing geopolitical lines with only the size of the population affecting the size of the districts.
2286		Aug 6 2017 3:47PM	Jeff Byrd	Please draw lines that sensibly unite geographic communities, and not lubes meant to favor any party. We need a functional democratic svstem for all of us to prosper together.
2287		Aug 6 2017 3:58PM	Mrs. Jamezetta Bedford	Please redistrict with fair maps that do not rely on race or party affiliation. No gerrymandering of any kind. Try for compact and contguous lines. Goal to get each vote to matter. Ideally NC citizens would have independent nonpartisan map drawers. Thank you.
2288		Aug 6 2017 4:21PM	Mr. James Phillips	Redistricting should be accomplished strictly on equal division of population with logical lines of divisions. There should not be anything else considered such as race, religion, political affiliation, or any other consideration. An example is District 32 that makes a crazy cut down in to District 2. This type of districting is clearly for separation based on something other than distinct equal population. Redstricking for NC Senate should be similar to US Senate with no regard to population. There should either be one representative per county, combine 2 counties to be represented by the current 50 seats.
2289		Aug 6 2017 4:25PM	Mr. Peyam Barghassa	INDEPENDENT COUNCIL. Do not let politicians ever again redistrict in order to keep their own party in power. That is not a democracy. Create that council asap and get honest fair maps created.
2290		Aug 6 2017 5:21PM	Ms. Mary Jo Johnson	Redistricting should not be for political purposes. Gerrymandering --by either political party -- is wrong and defeats the democratic process. Maps should be drawn by an unbiased committee in a fair and commonsensical way. The process needs to be transparent and should not be tinkered with after each election cycle.

2291		Aug 6 2017 5:29PM	Mr. Martin Schweitzer	I strongly object to gerrymandering for political gain, regardless of which party is in power. Currently, North Carolina is fairly evenly split between Democrats and Republicans yet the GOP has huge majorities of representatives in both the U.S. House and in the State legislature. This unfairly limits the electoral influence of many citizens while inflating the power of others. In moral terms, this is just plain wrong! I strongly recommend that new districts be drawn using either a criteria-driven civil servant approach, as is done in Iowa, or a criteria-driven independent commission approach, like the one used in California. In either case, the key criteria guiding the creation of districts should be compactness and consistency with natural and political boundaries. Let democracy prevail! The citizens of our great
2292		Aug 6 2017 5:53PM	Mr. William Carley	No, politicians should not redraw the district maps. I want an independent nonpartisan commission to draw them.
2293		Aug 6 2017 5:53PM	Laura Reich	We want non partisans to draw districts!!
2294		Aug 6 2017 6:01PM	Elizabeth Sexton	Every district of the great state of North Carolina should be purple. Not red. Not blue. PURPLE. This way the state, and all its districts, is a level playing field. Why does either party think they have the right to change the redistricting for the sole purpose of giving their party an edge. If the party can't win on its candidate's own merit, he or she shouldn't be elected. Plan and simple and would save a lot of taxpayer money having to figure all this redistricting out. Maybe you can all
2295		Aug 6 2017 6:15PM	Ms. Rachel Samuels	<p>take another day off</p> <p>Dear Fascist Gerrymander O' Plenties (GOP):</p> <p>Redistrict in a way that doesn't disenfranchise voters; stop the voter purges. Stop pulling funding from schools in districts that may not agree with you politically. I sincerely doubt you bigots are capable of playing in a fair and honest manner. After all, you fascist bigots have hired the same person to redraw the districts that gerrymandered them in the first place.</p> <p>Nothing that you do will ever convince me to support your goddamn party in an election. You are all bigots and govern as such. So, I hope you assholes prove me wrong and do the right thing. Redraw them in a manner that doesn't put parties first. Put the populace first, but knowing you fascist bastards that's not likely.</p> <p>I'd thank you for the job that you do, but I can't muster any thanks due to the way y'all have screwed over my city with the bathroom bill, our governor, and my reproductive rights. So, screw you all; I truly hope 2018 and beyond will hurt you all politically in this state and across the nation.</p>
2296		Aug 6 2017 6:20PM	Samuel Neuspiel	Please make an effort to really represent the makeup of the population, rather than trying to accumulate as much power as possible for a particular political party. Thanks for all the work that you do.
2297		Aug 6 2017 6:43PM	Mr. Samuel Wells	ALL districts need to be drawn by a independent commission . In no way should race, income, or party affiliation be used to pick voters in districts.
2298		Aug 6 2017 7:22PM	Pamela Grundy	We need an independent redistricting committee that will draw districts that fairly represent the priorities of our state's voters, rather than deploying raw political power to magnify some interests at the expense of others, as has been the case in our state for decades.
2299		Aug 6 2017 7:25PM	Lisa Lass	It's sad that we have to beg the legislature to do the right thing and redraw the district maps immediately, followed by special elections. The representatives we have now were not legally elected. This stare has become an embarrassment to democracy.
2300		Aug 6 2017 7:50PM	David Hardee	I believe that the criteria should require that the districts should: 1-Be compact and contiguous 2-Follow state and federal law 3-Keep like minded communities together 4-Be competitive in a partisan general election
2301		Aug 6 2017 8:14PM	Mr. Kenneth West	I would like to express a strong preference that the redistricting become non-partisan (as it is in many states), where independent commissions draw the district lines and politicians (Democrats and Republicans) are not allowed to choose their voters. I would like to encourage the legislature to draw boundaries that respect -- as much as is practically possible -- county lines and city lines so that
2302		Aug 6 2017 8:14PM	Mrs. Barbara Nail	communities are kept together within a district. Thank you We need to have district maps that are fair and avoid racial and partisan gerrymandering. Please remember that voters are the ones who should be choosing their representatives, not the other way around.
2303		Aug 6 2017 8:26PM	Mr. shaun murphy	<p>I am writing to have my voice heard on the redistricting issue that is before you. It is important to note that there is no relevant data to support voter fraud in this state or anywhere else across the nation. We need to draw our maps WITHOUT considering partisan factors like voter registration, the results of previous elections, voter turnout and where the incumbent lives.</p> <p>We need to be honorable and make sure we show respect for state and federal law by OBEYING those laws in our actions.</p> <p>We need to make the maps compact and NOT to be drawn in such a way as to favor the partisan preferences of those who would draw up unfair and partisan maps.</p> <p>Thank you in advance for your fair and legal actions on this very important issue.</p>

2304		Aug 6 2017 8:59PM	Mr. Andrew Chmar	Legislators: It's time for NC to follow the Iowa model and create fair and legal redistricting. Irrespective of party affiliation (and be assured the majority will eventually swing back), all North Carolinians deserve equal representation in Raleigh, and gerrymandering must end for both sides. Now is the time to take the RIGHT action, and let a non-partisan, data driven redistricting process determine the legislative districts across the State. Follow the Iowa model.
2305		Aug 6 2017 9:10PM	Ms. Linda Rudick	New districts should be compact, no split counties, no regard for demographics.
2306		Aug 6 2017 9:15PM	Kathryn Melton	The districts should be drawn by an outside, nonpartisan group. The districts should be drawn without regard to racial demographics or party affiliation and solely on making the districts even in the number of constituents in each one.
2307		Aug 6 2017 9:39PM	Mr. Thomas Blanton	I opposed gerrymandering when Democrats did it, and I oppose it now. We need fair representation in our state, and in all states.
2308		Aug 6 2017 9:50PM	Julie Kelly	Please draw districts without any data whatsoever on party, race, gender, income, etc. I want it to be as fair as football. Would you want the refs to be outspoken fans for the opposing team? Now, what if it were not just the refs, but the people making the rules? Maybe the scoreboard operator is impartial, but if the other team is making the rules and calling the fouls, how does that even help? Let's not have North Carolina be the place where our sports is more fair, more cooperative, and more impartial than our election system.
2309		Aug 6 2017 10:19PM	Mr. Michael Crotty	Hello, I would like to request that the upcoming redistricting process follow these criteria: 1. Politically Neutral – No addresses of candidates or incumbents should be used, and residents’ voting histories should not be considered. 2. Compact and Contiguous – Voters within a district should not be unnecessarily dispersed, and no voting district may be geographically divided, or split, by another district, i.e. all portions of a district must connect. 3. Respect Boundaries – Avoid dividing counties and municipalities where possible. 4. Protect Communities of Interest – Avoid dividing communities of interest where possible. Communities of interest typically have social, cultural, racial, ethnic, and/or economic interests in common. 5. Transparent Process – The process of creating maps should be transparent, providing maps as soon as possible, live-streaming meetings, and allowing the public to provide suggestions for changes to the draft maps. The citizens of North Carolina deserve to have a fair redistricting process. Thanks, Michael Crotty Raleigh, NC 27617
2310		Aug 6 2017 10:23PM	Andrea Kervick	Our city is being controlled by a City Council from two wealthy districts . The people of Wilmington are not represented . The needs and concerns of many are overlooked and ignored as the City Council sweetens their take home winnings with their political deals and business connections. We need redistricting .
2311		Aug 6 2017 10:25PM	Sandra Bundgaard	All redistricting should be done by an independent council! This is the only way to get districting that is as fair as humanly possible and trusted by the citizens.
2312		Aug 6 2017 10:27PM	Joel Carlin	To all you people responsible for this, please do the right thing, draw the districts free of politics.
2313		Aug 6 2017 10:54PM	Ms. Lois Nixon	Please ensure that maps are fair to citizens of both political parties, and unaffiliated, and especially to all races and all people of various economic status. If it is impossible for the NCGA to do this, then turn over the job to a Nonpartisan Redistricting Commission. Laws passed by this current unconstitutional NCGA should be nullified.
2314		Aug 6 2017 11:10PM	Carl Michaelson	Our legislative districts should be drawn in a non-partisan manner. Districts should never be drawn to be considered "safe" for any party. Representatives elected from districts drawn in a non-partisan way will be much more responsive to the concerns of all citizens. AS THEY SHOULD BE. Please find a way to have our legislative districts drawn by non-partisan commissions. Thank you.
2315		Aug 7 2017 12:18AM	Ms. Catherine Lacienski	NC needs independent, non-partisan redistricting. Legislators should NOT be able to choose their voters.
2316		Aug 7 2017 3:50AM	Charlene Bartlinski	Our lawmakers have demonstrated time and time again that neither Democrats nor Republicans should be entrusted nor tasked with determining the size and shape of our voting districts. It is time to stop being a judicial joke in the country and be an example for other states to emulate. Recommend an independent council to define the parameters for and the creation of NC voting districts to ensure the best interests of all North Carolinians. And, that there be complete transparency of these processes from start to final product. It is time to create districts with that one fair and balanced
2317		Aug 7 2017 3:58AM	Ms. Janice Ellen Presnell	Everyone except the politicians need to be involved in the decision making process of our NC voting districts. Stop the gerrymandering. Allow all citizens of voting age to vote.

2318		Aug 7 2017 4:08AM	Ms. Elizabeth Wingfield	Why are the same people who created the biased maps making the revision? I do not understand this. That's the classic definition of crazy--to do the same thing over and over and expect different results.
2319		Aug 7 2017 6:14AM	Mr. Scott Seim	As an NC voter, I support districts that accurately represent ALL the citizens of the state. It is critically important that ALL voters have an equal opportunity to be represented in our state government, including NC Senate, NC House, and US Congressional districts. Please respect the following criteria when redrawing: Compliance with the US Constitution and the Voting Rights Act (VRA) of 1965 Districts with equal population to the greatest extent possible. Districts that are geographically compact and contiguous. Districts that are not designed for a given incumbent Districts that are competitive Districts that do not waste votes Thank you, Scott
2320		Aug 7 2017 6:48AM	Ms. lynn Shapiro	I am writing because I am extremely concerned about the criteria for redistribution and feel the best method would be to have an independent group NOT connected or in contact with our NCGA (until submission) to make up the districts. This way neither party during any 10 year period can control the citizens of NC. That said, I demand the districts you set up now will be compliant with the 1965 VRA. I demand the boundaries represent communities of interest i.e. agriculture, industrial, citizens with common needs for their districts. I demand lines are drawn not to dilute voting of portions of the district. I do NOT agree with Rep. Lewis "that partisanship is part of what each and every one of us are" as he said in Jan. 2017. I am a citizen with different needs than some other citizens but I am certainly willing to consider and find common ground so we can make living in NC good for all citizens not just the group with the power. We do not need lawmakers who live their lives with such egotistical and entitled beliefs. Thank you, Lynn Shapiro
2321		Aug 7 2017 7:37AM	Anne Fondren	Please redraw maps accordingly: Districts that are geographically compact and contiguous. Boundaries that respect communities of interest; specifically areas with shared social and economic interests, such as those shared by an agricultural community, an industrial area, or an area in which people share local natural resources for their livelihood (for example, fishing in coastal areas). Compliance with the US Constitution and the Voting Rights Act (VRA) of 1965 The residence of any incumbent or political candidate should NOT be considered. Districts with equal population to the greatest extent possible.
2322		Aug 7 2017 7:41AM	Ms. Andrew Olsen	I support an independent commission to draw up fair maps.
2323		Aug 7 2017 7:52AM	Ms. Wendy Smith	Making sure that election districts are drawn in a fair, NONPARTISAN way that ensures every citizen an equal vote is, I think, the most important issue facing our democracy today. We cannot have any confidence in our elected officials if they come from districts drawn to favor one party over another. Not only is this wrong, it encourages extremism and unwillingness to compromise. Democrats and Republicans have been equally guilty of this behavior--let's fix it in every state and across the nation.
2324		Aug 7 2017 7:59AM	Ms. Melissa Delbridge	Districting should be based on the counties and geographic areas where people actually live so that the outcomes reflect the desires of the community. This is what our founders intended. There should be a complete disregard for which party benefits and there should be NO attempt to manipulate outcomes by control where people vote. Attempts to rig elections by gerrymandering districts have destroyed the faith of the people and have damaged the integrity of both parties. I am changing my registration to Unaffiliated and will support the party that demonstrates the most INTEGRITY AND HONESTY in the next election. I am tired of politicians making me ashamed of their greed and self-interest. It's not how our country or our state is supposed to work. Thank you.
2325		Aug 7 2017 8:19AM	Mr. Michael Sales	We need an independent commission to determine the size and shape of our districts. Politicians will always be biased.
2326		Aug 7 2017 8:50AM	Amy Dotson	We need and inpendent commission to determine the size and shape of our districts. There needs to be complete and full transparency at every step to ensure that a bias towards a party, race or gender played non part in the decision making.
2327		Aug 7 2017 8:54AM	Dr. Lloyd Chambless	1. The redistricting committee should be completely transparent on the criteria to draw the maps. 2. The committee should not use past election results or voter registration information in drawing the maps, nor should it use address of General Assembly members past or present

2328		Aug 7 2017 9:03AM	Jo Ann Ragazzo	Please adopt the redistricting map prepared at the Sanford Public Policy Institute at Duke as this was prepared by a non-partisan commission of respected jurists (equally from both parties) with much research and thought. The map this group prepared is truly a fair and reasonable way to proceed instead of the constant gerrymandering by both parties. Another benefit would be no more litigation and no more taxpayers funded defenses of unconstitutional maps by either side
2329		Aug 7 2017 9:22AM	Mrs. Brianne Kohl	I am very concerned about the issue of gerrymandering in North Carolina. Districting should not be a partisan issue and it should definitely not be a racial hammer to use against citizens. I am a politically active citizen and I feel like my vote doesn't matter. I want to see the districts aligned fairly and thoughtfully without partisan influence. I believe correcting the issue of our gerrymandered districts will benefit our education system, our environmental impact, social efforts and basic human rights
2330		Aug 7 2017 9:28AM	Mr. Mark Rosen	We cold just revert the districts back to the way they were before the Republicans gerrymandered them. IMHO
2331		Aug 7 2017 9:31AM	Mr. Paul McKenzie	Please have districts redrawn by either an independent committee or through computer algorithm so that the intentional grouping of voter blocks is removed from the process. The only truthful purpose in either party attempting to group voters by party affiliation is to sway elections. It WILL come back to bite your party, whichever that may be. Please work to remove this partisanship.
2332		Aug 7 2017 9:33AM	Katherine Ruiz	I support an independent panel to draw the new districts to ensure democracy is preserved in our great and diverse state!
2333		Aug 7 2017 9:52AM	Mr. George W Benson	It is time for you to put out fair and bi partisan districts. You have stalled and delayed and corrupted our constitutional freedoms long enough. End Gerrymandering now.
2334		Aug 7 2017 10:02AM	Danielle Golubski	Good morning, I am a new constituent of North Carolina. I believe each person's vote should matter in this state by establishing an independent council to determine how to draw the new voting districts in North Carolina. We need to ensure the new boundaries will best serve ALL North Carolinians. Please let there be no secrecy during the creation of this council nor while the new voting map is being created. Thank you for your time in reading my comments, and for considering your constituents input in this matter.
2335		Aug 7 2017 10:14AM	Pat Emenheiser	It's time to stop the recurring illegal redistricting attempts. The new maps should be compact and contiguous and be drawn without partisan consideration.
2336		Aug 7 2017 10:42AM	Brad Bennett	Senate District 31 and House District 075 (which I am in) are so gerrymandered to exclude black people around Winston and US52 it's no wonder the court said to redraw it. It's almost like politicians don't like competition and hate the free market. There needs to be an independent as possible board or computer program to do the redistricting
2337		Aug 7 2017 10:43AM	Mrs. Marilyn Talbot	All citizens are entitled to a fair and easily accessible opportunity to cast their vote. Fair redistricting is an obligation to be achieved.
2338		Aug 7 2017 10:46AM	Ms. Mary Nations	I am requesting a fully transparent process to create fair districts, To create fair districts, the process must ignore voter registration, voter turnout and results of past elections and residence of incumbents or challengers. No more partisan gerrymandering.
2339		Aug 7 2017 10:46AM	Mr. Peter van Dorsten	The criteria for redistricting should not try to favor one party over another in a district. It should instead seek to have well balanced districts so that every vote counts equally. Continuing a partisan approach to a fundamental right of citizenship is at odds with a representative democracy. The process should be taken away from partisan politicians and be based on criteria like compactness, contiguity, equal population, preservation of existing political communities, partisan fairness, and racial fairness. Technology can be used to model fair districts and make evenhanded recommendations to a non-political body. This would go a long way toward making our government effective again and avoid the troubling divisiveness so rampant in our country.
2340		Aug 7 2017 10:53AM	Ms. Sue Schwartz	There must be an end to this endless reworking of maps to favor the party in power. An independent/nonpartisan commission should be drawing these maps, not a partisan person whose previous work has been declared unconstitutional by the courts.
2341		Aug 7 2017 11:02AM	Mr. John Blair	Create Fair Districts. We are watching.
2342		Aug 7 2017 11:03AM	Mrs. Ellenore Pinkham	I am concerned about partisan gerrymandering throughout the state of North Carolina and hope that redistricting would adhere to the guidelines of contiguity and geographical compactness. Please avoid partisan and racial gerrymandering.
2343		Aug 7 2017 11:10AM	Ms. Sandra Hooper	Please consider the following regarding redistricting: Be compact and contiguous Follow state and federal law Be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout and where the incumbent lives
2344		Aug 7 2017 11:13AM	Dr. Otto Benfey	Redistricting needs to be carried out by a non-partisan group, not by the party currently in power.
2345		Aug 7 2017 11:20AM	Meagan Pennell	Redistricting needs to happen as soon as possible to end gerrymandering! This should be done by a non partisan third party committee not the current republican controlled house who made gerrymandering so bad in NC to start with. District drawing should be placed in the hands of a non partisan committee so that constituents are accurately and fairly represented and neither party has an unfair advantage

2346		Aug 7 2017 12:01PM	Mr. Austen DiPalma	<p>Hello,</p> <p>Political gerrymandering needs to be halted in our state. In lieu of an independent panel, I would like to recommend creating "optimally compact" equal-population congressional districts based on 2010 census data. Brian Olson, a software engineer in Massachusetts, has created an algorithm that draws districts that respect the boundaries of census blocks, ensuring that the district boundaries reflect actual neighborhoods and don't cut arbitrary lines through neighborhoods or even houses.</p> <p>Please see this link to read more about this algorithm and process: https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2014/06/03/this-computer-programmer-solved-gerrymandering-in-his-spare-time/</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Austen DiPalma Charlotte, NC 28270</p>
2347		Aug 7 2017 12:14PM	Ms. Barbara Steele	Districts in this state need to be drawn in a nonpartisan manner. Both parties have shown that, when they are in power, they want to maintain that power, and accrue as much more as possible. It's time for voters to choose their representatives, rather than the other way around.
2348		Aug 7 2017 1:18PM	Jo Ann Amey	I implore you to do the right thing and draw new legislative maps in a logical way, just dividing the state geographically, not considering racial or partisan numbers. Legislators should simply represent the citizens of a logical geographic area. We all deserve to be equally represented.
2349		Aug 7 2017 1:19PM	Tiffany Jensen	Please redistrict fairly and end gerrymandering. I also do not agree with using the consultant that worked with the GOP in 2010 for redistricting. He is costing tax payers millions of dollars with his racially biased maps. I hope the outcome is a fair one that represents all the people in the state of North Carolina and does not favor the GOP agenda. Thank you.
2350		Aug 7 2017 1:31PM	Roger Miller	The only way to have fair redistricting is to set up an independent commission. As a voter in NC I am in support of an independent redistricting commission.
2351		Aug 7 2017 1:44PM	Barbara Wetmore	Please let me see the redrawn maps so I can comment on them more meaningfully! For now, I want to express that I have begun to doubt whether my vote counts and whether I live in a democratic country because of this gerrymandering that has been done. I am ashamed to tell people I live in North Carolina. And my concern is turning to fear that we are being led into authoritarian control and are helpless to do anything about it because our vote no longer counts. If you are a true American who believes in our freedom, stop this horror and restore my faith in my state and my country. Redraw the maps fairly as you have been ordered to do, and show them to the people!
2352		Aug 7 2017 2:15PM	Dr. Sarah Nielsen	I would like for the new districts to represent ALL NC citizens equally and fairly, not just one political party. The same criteria should be used for NC as well as US districts. In particular, the districts should be fairly equal in population and be contiguous (make sense geographically). Above all they should be fairly drawn so that they don't represent one political party more than another or dilute the voting power of a political party. You have an opportunity to serve as an example to our nation for fair & equitable districting!
2353		Aug 7 2017 2:22PM	Ms. Barbara Prillaman	Absolve yourselves completely from any involvement in the redistricting process. Appoint a committee of nonpartisan demographers, geographers, statisticians, and other qualified professionals who know how to interpret census data. Give this committee the remit of drawing fair, balanced, sensible, and representative districts, and then stay out of their way. When you seek applicants for this committee, swear not to interfere in or influence their work. Promise before they start that you will accept their work when it's completed. Do not interfere with their work, and do not threaten or initiate any legal challenges to their work.
2354		Aug 7 2017 2:32PM	Dr. Rebecca Wall	Please set up an independent commission of experts from appropriate professions and then accept their findings. Better yet, write the use of such a commission into law so that no matter who controls the General Assembly, a fair process will be used.
2355		Aug 7 2017 2:48PM	Mr. MICHAEL RAINEY	Change nothing. Liberals are just crying because they lost
2356		Aug 7 2017 2:50PM	Mr. Sean Lallouz	Stop letting politicians from both sides choose their voters rather than the other way around. It's undemocratic and often racist.

2357		Aug 7 2017 2:59PM	Mr. Thomas Spencer	<p>Back on January 26, 2017, I had the privilege of attending a presentation sponsored by the League of Women Voters of the Piedmont Triad called: Restoring Democracy in NC: The Case for Nonpartisan Redistricting Reform at UNC-G. Presenters Dr. Tom Ross, Justice Rhoda Billings, and Justice Henry Frye discussed their work during last summer's Nonpartisan Redistricting Project, in which they participated. You may be familiar with the nonpartisan legislative maps that came out of the project, which demonstrated that fair, competitive districts can be created in North Carolina without gerrymandering.</p> <p>This issue is an important one, and one which I believe deserves your support in the NC Senate. There are many reasons to be in favor of nonpartisan redistricting, but to me, the most important one is to adhere to the "one person - one vote" standard set by the US Supreme Court in the early 1960's. The way current legislative districts are drawn today, there are entire groups of people who are not represented in the US Congress or in the NC Legislature. Other reasons are:</p> <p>North Carolina isn't a one party state. Over half of the affiliated registered voters in North Carolina are Democrats, but Republicans have a 10 – 3 majority in the US House. More voters are unaffiliated than are registered Republicans.</p> <p>Voters should choose their representatives, not the other way around. Political affiliation or voting records should not be criteria for drawing district boundaries.</p> <p>If districts are competitive, more candidates will likely run. Elections won't be decided in the primaries as many of them were in 2016.</p> <p>If races are more competitive, more voters from both parties will likely participate.</p> <p>On January 27 of this year, Wisconsin's legislature was ordered by</p>
2358		Aug 7 2017 3:03PM	Samuel Mallery	<p>I am writing to urge you to draw the voting maps fairly, without the unjust influence partisan politics. Freedom, liberty, and justice either lives or dies based on your actions.</p>
2359		Aug 7 2017 3:15PM	Dan deBettencourt	<p>I STRONGLY urge for the creation of a non-partisan redistricting committee. This is bedrock for our democratic process, which is fundamental to our civilization. Let the partys and the politicians win on the merits of their arguments, not the makeup of their districts.</p>
2360		Aug 7 2017 3:18PM	Mary Bowman	<p>I have been a North Carolina resident for over 35 years and have painfully watched the unbalanced politics that get create when either party is in power and gerrymanders the districts. When the politics are unbalanced, two party system is less effective. Even more important, the election process becomes altered because most candidates are selected in the primary round when so few voters vote. Additionally, voters loos their true right to vote because they are not given a choice of candidates. Politicians in NC cannot be voted out and so feel more loyalty to special interests than their citizens. PLEASE create better districts that support a robust democracy where the representatives and the citizens have the strongest relationship.</p>
2361		Aug 7 2017 3:41PM	Mr. Thomas Gilbert	<p>I strongly urge the NCGA to task an independent multi-partisan or non partisan commission with the responsibility of creating new district boundaries. The NCGA has shown time and again that it is incapable of governing in good faith, and ensuring that all North Carolina residents have the opportunity to be fairly represented in a manner consistent with the constitution regardless of race or party affiliation. The boundaries should be drawn to encompass the designated population in a sensible geographic area, not in a manner which tries to carve out a safe district for an incumbent representative. If members of the legislature feel that is too difficult or politically risky a suggestion, then it is time for a different body to try a hand at creating maps that will not create another expensive, taxpayer funded court battle. It is worth a try at this point.</p>
2362		Aug 7 2017 3:47PM	Mr. Charles Zimmerman	<p>It is time for bi-partisan or non-partisan redistricting. Both sides have politicized this far too long to the detriment of our state and the electoral process. I would strongly suggest that we ask a University such as Duke or UNC or another non-affiliated group to oversee the process. Worse case scenario, have the judicial system do it for you! Perhaps we should move away from districts and simply have statewide elections.</p>
2363		Aug 7 2017 3:58PM	Mrs. Susan Hunt	<p>To All Legislators: It is time that electoral redistricting becomes NON-Partisan or Bi-Partisan. Neither party has the moral right to draw districts that benefit one party, but severely hurt the other party's chances to represent citizens of NC. The US is supposed to be a FREE nation where DEMOCRACY IS AVAILABLE TO ALL OF US, NOT JUST TO SENATORS AND HOUSE MEMBERS. THIS IS NOT CUBA, OR VENEZUELA, RUSSIA, CHINA OR NORTH KOREA. STOP IT!</p>
2364		Aug 7 2017 4:00PM	Ms. Audrey Hammonds	<p>Focus on guidelines and independence in the map making process, look at the models of California and Arizona for guidance.</p>
2365		Aug 7 2017 4:05PM	Ms. brenda Winkler	<p>Districts should be drawn up fairly, free from partisanship. There are PLENTY of computer programs/algorithms that can create fair and impartial districts free from partisan politics! That is the way it should be!</p> <p>See https://sites.tufts.edu/gerrymandr/ for explanation of the computer algorithm that can easily be implemented to solve this problem.</p>
2366		Aug 7 2017 4:06PM	Danielle Grecu	<p>North Carolina needs non partisan redistricting. We need fair elections.</p>

2367		Aug 7 2017 4:10PM	Charles Hofheimer	<p>Please establish an independent non-partisan commission to draw redistricting lines that are based on :Independent. Reform proposals need to remove conflicts of interest and have an impartial body that is independent from the General Assembly draw the maps.</p> <p>Objective, using non-partisan criteria. District boundaries need to be drawn on the basis of legal, demographic and commonsense criteria that ignore political interests.</p> <p>Transparent. The process must be open to public inquiry and input. Citizens deserve to know the decisions behind the creation of their districts and have the opportunity to make their opinions known in the process.</p>
2368		Aug 7 2017 4:35PM	Mr. Herman Anderson	<p>A democracy is only as strong as the participation of its electorate. While the aim of gerrymandering has been to consolidate control by whichever party is in power, its opposite effect is to cause folks to wonder whether their votes really matter, and if not, why bother to participate. This can't be healthy for the future of our state. I implore you to put all the people of the great State of North Carolina first over party, and draw maps that include criteria such as equal population, contiguous geography, and shared economic interests. Please restore the founding principle of our state of "one person, one vote", undiluted. Thank you for taking my comment.</p>
2369		Aug 7 2017 4:44PM	Mr. Keith Younts	<p>Gerrymandering needs to be prohibited. Both parties have been guilty of the practice. If you look at some of our districts it is comical. We need a non partisan independent council or organization to draw up new districts based on population equality and according to the Federal Voting Act. I am not an expert but I am sure there are computer programs around that would remove some of the human bias from the process. I for one am tired of NC being the laughing stock of the Country for being a "former democracy". Gerrymandering has turned NC into a Republican dictatorship. That need to change with a non biased redistricting.</p> <p>Thank you....</p>
2370		Aug 7 2017 4:46PM	Dr. Tracy Raines	<p>I want our districts drawn fairly and free from partisan politics!</p> <p>Here's why:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Gerrymandering is undemocratic, unrepresentative, and unfair - particularly in NC. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In partisan districting systems, "representatives choose their voters, rather than voters choosing their representatives" In the 2016 NCGA elections, Republicans received 52% of votes for the House and 56% of votes for the Senate - but they won over 60% of House seats and 70% of Senate seats The Electoral Integrity Project, which measures the the quality of elections worldwide, gave NC a score of 7/100 on the integrity of its voting districts, lower than any other state - or country - analyzed Gerrymandering decreases competition, and contributes to political polarization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the 2016 NCGA elections, per Ballotpedia, less than 15% of the races in the House and Senate were competitive When representatives are able to choose their voters - and thus are not accountable to a broad constituency - they can afford to play solely to their base This means not only that many interests are neglected in any given district, but also that more extreme interests/positions tend to prevail (polarization) Legal challenges to partisan districting have been costly for our state <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There have been over 30 court interventions in the redistricting process over the past 30 years in NC In the last 6 years alone, NC has paid over \$5 million for redistricting litigation
2371		Aug 7 2017 4:48PM	Mrs. Judy Carter	<p>There are a couple of ways to do this. Chose an independent commission, devoid of politicians, to draw these districts. Or, there are computer algorithms that would take any human bias out of the equation. Either of these would get my vote, but definitely leave the politicians out of it. Thank you.</p>
2372		Aug 7 2017 4:52PM	Mrs. Amy King	<p>Dear NCGA,</p> <p>Non-partisan redistricting is vital to better legislative outcomes for all political parties. Non-partisan districts create environments that are more competitive across parties as well as within a given party. Competition produces more motivated candidates that are less likely to be influenced exclusively by a given interest group and are more invested in the concerns of their constituents.</p> <p>The current model, with its favoring of incumbents and inability to encourage competition, leads to a public ennui and distrust of the legislature. People feel better about their representatives when they feel they are truly representative - having gone through an election process that is designed to put forth the most qualified candidates on either side.</p> <p>Thank you,</p>

2373		Aug 7 2017 5:09PM	Mr. Kenneth Rose	We have a bedrock principal in our democracy- one person one vote - every vote should count the same. Some votes do not count as much as others because of gerrymandering for partisan benefit. This has been true to some extent with both parties in power. The legislature should pass legislation adopting a non-partisan commission with the responsibility of taking politics out of voting! Short of that, the legislature should appoint experts and mandate that race, income and politics must not be considered in drawing legislative lines and voting districts.
2374		Aug 7 2017 5:14PM	James Holcomb	Please do the right thing and honorable thing. Every thinking person in the country knows that extreme partisan gerrymandering hurts everyone, is cynical, and is ultimately destructive. Independent, nonpartisan redistricting is required, and you can make it happen. Please listen to those most vocal and most knowledgable about this. Voters should choose their representatives, not the other way around.
2375		Aug 7 2017 5:41PM	Sarah Whalen	NC lawmakers have demonstrated time and time again, on both sides of the aisle, that neither Democrats nor Republicans should be trusted nor tasked with determining the size and shape of North Carolina's voting districts. The time has come to show the rest of our country just how impartial and bipartisan our deeply diverse state can be. I call for the establishment of an independent council for the purposes of determining how the voting districts in North Carolina should be drawn, ensuring that the new boundaries be established in order to best serve all North Carolinians, and for complete transparency both during the establishment of said council and while our new voting map is being created.
2376		Aug 7 2017 5:47PM	Ms. Stefanie Fisco	Please hire mathematicians to solve this problem and redistrict with science. I am tired of seeing my fellow Americans be treated as less-than-human and have their needs be stolen from them.
2377		Aug 7 2017 5:48PM	Mr. Johnathan Waugh	Please just start redistricting with a bipartisan board. These court challenges every time are killing the people of this state. The voters are watching you. Just do what is right and stop trying to gerrymander.
2378		Aug 7 2017 5:49PM	Ms. Jackie Freeze	Most importantly I would like to see the redistricting follow the laws of the state and federal government. No regard should be paid to voting history of any area and neither should race play a role in the redistricting process and thusly the end results. Each district should be compact and contiguous and the candidate that is running for election should live in the district they represent. Your consideration and thoughtful consideration in this process following the applicable guidelines and should not favor either party.
2379		Aug 7 2017 5:52PM	Jason Endries	The criteria used for redrawing the districts across the state need to provide equal representation for all races, income levels, political ideologies, etc. in each district. Please do what is right to ensure fair and even chances for all political parties to be represented in the NC government in the years to come.
2380		Aug 7 2017 6:06PM	Ms. Sharla Seidel	Districts should be drawn by an independent and diverse panel of people who are not elected officials and who can objectively map districts. Districts should be based upon population, creating each district to contain roughly the same amount of people. The individuals who serve on the panel should be appointed, not be currently holding public office, and should serve for a defined period of time.
2381		Aug 7 2017 6:11PM	Mr. Ben Kittner	Please create an independent, bipartisan commission in charge of redistricting. Thank you.
2382		Aug 7 2017 6:27PM	Mrs. Betsy Webster	It is time to stop racial and partisan gerrymandering
2383		Aug 7 2017 6:43PM	Vonna Viglione	If a party cannot win based on their policies, they ought not to substitute a manipulated district for the REAL "will of the people". Blatant partisanship in drawing the maps is not acceptable. Use criteria to reduce splitting of local governments. Use criteria that are objective and defensible. North Carolina used to be a model for progressive ideals. I fear that now we represent every bad thing that politics can be, hyper-partisanship, opportunism, negating local government actions and making a mockery of "free elections". Redraw maps that are an affront to democracy and you admit to being cowards afraid to compete on a level playing field. Make us proud of North Carolina once again. Do the right thing.
2384		Aug 7 2017 7:00PM	Mr. Ethan Hull	How about restoring democracy in North Carolina and not hoodwinking your way into authoritarian rule. Assign an independent agent to redraw the voting districts. You can not alienate mass populations of voters with no repercussions. The constitution is not on your side when you draw districts for political gain. Disenfranchise at your own risk.
2385		Aug 7 2017 7:02PM	James Ehmann	Stop gerrymandering!!!
2386		Aug 7 2017 7:12PM	Ms. Lea Dutton	Please create fair, representative districts using a nonpartisan approach. Please focus on creating districts that ensure the most citizens voices are heard in every election.
2387		Aug 7 2017 7:18PM	Dr. Gordon Whitaker	Please release your working drafts of potential new districts right away. The public has the right to be informed about your plans in order to offer constructive comments.
2388		Aug 7 2017 7:44PM	Mrs. Lucy Crown	Give us fair districting. AND STOP TRYING TO DISTRICT ASHEVILLE!!!

2389		Aug 7 2017 8:19PM	Mr. Jack Unruh	<p>Please end gerrymandering once and for all!! Neither Republicans or Democrats should have an advantage in the way districts are drawn. They should be non-partisan and done geographically.</p> <p>We do not currently have a democracy in NC, or most of the United States for that matter. The system is always rigged to favor one party or the other and this needs to change!! We want non-partisan districts now!!</p>
2390		Aug 7 2017 8:20PM	Ms. Mary Huwe	<p>For God's sake, representatives, do your duties and create districts that do not stack the deck. Districts that actually represent the geographical areas of the people who would be your constituents, if you did this as a conscionable person would. (See also conscientious, ethical, honest, honorable, just, moral, principled, scrupulous.)</p> <p>If you cannot do it for human decency's sake - and you should - then do it for democracy. If you cannot do it for democracy's sake - and you should - then do it for the Constitution. If you cannot do it for the Constitution - and you should - then do it because it's your sworn oath. If you cannot do it for your own honor - "sad" as your president would say - then do it for your selfish pride.</p> <p>Your refusal to be stewards of democracy, your fear and disgust of "other," your repeated acts of injustice are dragging North Carolina down in the eyes of the Union - and the world. Does that reach you, perhaps?</p> <p>I don't care if you do this simply out of your own malice and smugness and small-minded self-certainty.</p> <p>Redraw the lines and let the cards fall as they will.</p> <p>This is a representative democracy. and your duty is clear.</p>
2391		Aug 7 2017 9:00PM	Amanda Byrne	<p>Keep It Simple Stupid.</p> <p>Just let us vote by county.</p>
2392		Aug 7 2017 9:06PM	Dr. Beth Knight	<p>Please redistrict in a fair way that is blind to race, gender, age, political party affiliations, and other demographics. Thank you.</p>
2393		Aug 7 2017 9:22PM	Mr. walter McDuffie	<p>Bladen is presently split in congressional districts 7&9. The good side is we have 2 good men representing us. The bad is our 5th. district stretches all the way to Mecklenburg Co. At time of election our thoughts were to expect problems but so far I have not heard a single complaint. Apparently everyone is content as things are.</p>
2394		Aug 7 2017 9:23PM	Mr. Powell Marshall	<p>This needs to be completed by an independent non partisan commission.</p> <p>And sitting legislative group, be Democratic, Republican or other will draw maps to Favor themselves.</p>
2395		Aug 7 2017 9:38PM	Mr. Mark Zachmann	<p>It's impossible to describe how much I feel that going forward our districts should be drawn by a non-partisan commission. The US is the only civilized country that lets legislators draw their own districts and there's a reason no one else does - it's just crazy to let politicians decide district boundaries.</p> <p>NONPARTISAN redistricting is the only logical choice</p>
2396		Aug 7 2017 9:42PM	Mrs. Iris Carman	<p>End gerrymander drawn maps by following the standards below to create a fair process and fair district maps...</p> <p>_adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps</p> <p>_exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps</p> <p>_draw compact districts that keep communities together</p> <p>Protect and support our democracy by creating fair and sensible voting districts.</p>
2397		Aug 7 2017 10:03PM	Mr. Evan Plante	<p>When I see gerrymandering (whether it's political or race based), I am reminded that the goal is to divide neighbors. Don't divide me from my people. Don't herd us into "manageable" groups. That's what gerrymandering does. Its a sick fantasy to play God. Let us assemble, then reckon with us as neighbors rather than numbers. Start at one house and count until you fill the district. It's easy, if you don't insist on playing God.</p>
2398		Aug 7 2017 10:07PM	Ms. NinaCarmen Monroe	<p>Whatever method you choose for redistricting, you MUST remove the power of drawing districts from the hands of politicians, Democrat OR Republican. An independent body made of people from across the spectrum of parties needs to be responsible for this. Districts need to be designed by location and similarity of issues and needs. This is the SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT THING you can do for the state and the country at this time. Destroy gerrymandering - whatever it takes.</p>
2399		Aug 7 2017 10:17PM	Mrs. Donna Klibanow	<p>As it currently stands, our legislature represents acreage, not people. The smallest number of people in this state have the largest representation, and the largest number of people have the least. The districts should be drawn so that the population is represented fairly. Gerrymandering our state to artificially give one power a super majority they have not earned and do not deserve is not democracy.</p>
2400		Aug 7 2017 10:32PM	TAMMY WALSH	<p>Lines need to be redrawn to better reflect districts. Gerrymandering needs to end. Should be done by a bipartisan committee.</p>
2401		Aug 7 2017 11:25PM	Dr. Douglas Hamerski	<p>Please pursue independent districting. This is too important to be left to those who stand to gain from its abuse.</p>
2402		Aug 8 2017 12:13AM	Ms. Patricia Derrough	<p>Please stop unfair gerrymandering. Please redraw districts and make fair.</p>

2403		Aug 8 2017 12:55AM	Mr. William Switzer	Districts in NC should be drawn by or as if they were by a nonpartisan committee. If done properly the party representation should be roughly 50/50, reflecting the true nature of our swing state. This will force compromise and allow all citizens to be fairly represented in our state government.
2404		Aug 8 2017 1:28AM	Lisa Rowden	Districts should be drawn by computer algorithms. Inputting political affiliation to determine the most balanced districts available. Population and race can be used to make sure there are no skews in the results. To make sure it's all balanced. But absolutely no cherry picking districts. Computers are inherently non partisan.
2405		Aug 8 2017 5:37AM	Mr. Robrrt Thornton	Act quickly and be fair. Make the districts geometrically compact and stop with the racist tactics. Return Asheville back to Asheville insteam of McDowell.
2406		Aug 8 2017 5:45AM	Meera Nagaraj	Thanks to gerrymandering, results from this past election were determined well before any ballots were filed. Having politicians redraw the electoral maps essentially guarantees re-election for so many state legislators. There is a serious problem with the state of our democracy when politicians have more power over election results than the people of North Carolina. I strongly urge the NCGA to shift the responsibility of re-drawing electoral maps following the census to an independent body, like so many other states have already done.
2407		Aug 8 2017 6:02AM	Betty Gunz	Stop gerrymandering. It is undemocratic. Adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps. Exclude political information like voter registration data, past election results, or where incumbents live. Draw compact districts that keep communities together. Thank you. Betty Gunz
2408		Aug 8 2017 6:37AM	Elizabeth Crews	We need a bipartisan and independent commission to draw new districts. Our state cannot wait for crooks and cheaters to "do the right thing". Our GOP politicians have been bought and sold, and have no intention of working for all North Carolinians.
2409		Aug 8 2017 7:01AM	Ms. Janet Blanchard	Political parties should not have sole authority in drawing voting districts. An independent bipartisan committee should have the final authority to accept, reject, or redraw any voting district. Such a committee should include regular citizens, and a time of public comment and scrutiny. Lines should be geographically based, and contiguous. Splitting up a house, streets, college campuses etc should not be allowed. If a district is shown to be discriminatory, it should be redrawn within 30 days.
2410		Aug 8 2017 7:52AM	Michelle Young	Creating or maintaining a partisan advantage should not be a criterion for redrawing voting district maps. DRAW CLEAN MAPS with clear geographically based districts.
2411		Aug 8 2017 8:17AM	Dr. Judith Porter	We need compact scientifically drawn non-politically motivated districts.
2412		Aug 8 2017 8:27AM	Marie Howell	Don't rush. Get it right.
2413		Aug 8 2017 8:29AM	Ms. Eloise Collier	The only way to ensure fair redistricting is to have the maps drawn by a non-partisan committee. Our current legislature has shown just how far they are willing to go to gain power and it is hurting the people of NC in so many ways. Every vote should count equally.
2414		Aug 8 2017 8:32AM	Pamela Quinn	Redistricting should be completed on a non-partisan basis. Districts should be drawn based on geography and should not be drawn in such a way to give any one party an advantage over the other. The current districts are an embarrassment to the State of NC.
2415		Aug 8 2017 8:35AM	Mrs. Eleanor Dahners	I urge you to support nonpartisan redistricting for the following reasons: Gerrymandering is undemocratic, unrepresentative, and unfair - particularly in NC. In partisan districting systems, "representatives choose their voters, rather than voters choosing their representatives" In the 2016 NCGA elections, Republicans received 52% of votes for the House and 56% of votes for the Senate - but they won over 60% of House seats and 70% of Senate seats The Electoral Integrity Project, which measures the the quality of elections worldwide, gave NC a score of 7/100 on the integrity of its voting districts, lower than any other state - or country - analyzed Gerrymandering decreases competition, and contributes to political polarization In the 2016 NCGA elections, per Ballotpedia, less than 15% of the races in the House and Senate were competitive When representatives are able to choose their voters - and thus are not accountable to a broad constituency - they can afford to play solely to their base This means not only that many interests are neglected in any given district, but also that more extreme interests/positions tend to prevail (polarization) Legal challenges to partisan districting have been costly for our state There have been over 30 court interventions in the redistricting process over the past 30 years in NC In the last 6 years alone, NC has paid over \$5 million for redistricting litigation
2416		Aug 8 2017 9:09AM	Ms. Catherine Lacienski	North Carolinians deserve fair, nonpartisan maps like the maps developed by Common Cause.

2417		Aug 8 2017 9:25AM	Courtney McGuire	<p>I write to urge lawmakers to support nonpartisan redistricting. Gerrymandering is undemocratic and unrepresentative, especially in NC. The Electoral Integrity Project, which measures the quality of elections worldwide, gave NC a score of 7/100 on the integrity of its voting districts. This is lower than any other state or country analyzed and something which should be deeply shameful to all North Carolinians, but especially to our politicians. It is time to make our elections fair, increase competition and limit political polarization. I fully support a nonpartisan redistricting effort and I urge you all to support North Carolinians' rights to fair and democratic elections.</p> <p>Sincerely, Courtney McGuire</p>
2418		Aug 8 2017 9:26AM	Mrs. CYNTHIA MALESKY	<p>Independent redistricting is the goal. In the interim, fair redistricting without gerrymandering based on political affiliation will provide balanced representation and may assist with reducing partisanship. When a district contains varying needs, representatives must balance the needs of ALL of the people.</p>
2419		Aug 8 2017 9:37AM	Matthew Miller	<p>Please draw maps with fair and balanced populations. Do not draw maps that lean to specific voting groups or ethnic backgrounds. Representatives should be elected biased on the voting of the people. Not specific people.</p>
2420		Aug 8 2017 9:48AM	Tara Romano	<p>One person/one vote is the cornerstone to a robust democracy. Partisan redistricting, that aims to give one political party a practically unbeatable advantage in the gerrymandered district, threatens that cornerstone. In the 2016 state legislative election, over half of the races were uncontested, and many more were not competitive, considered as they were "safe" districts for one party or another. This type of partisan redistricting leaves a situation in which elected officials chose their voters, rather than the other way around.</p> <p>Partisan gerrymandering leaves us with lawmakers in "safe" districts who don't feel the need to be accountable and responsive to their constituents, as those constituents are unlikely to be able to vote out these representatives. What we are left with is a legislature of extremists, who are only accountable to the moneyed special interest groups that fund their increasingly expensive campaigns. Is that what democracy is supposed to look like?</p> <p>We need an independent redistricting process now. Thank you.</p>
2421		Aug 8 2017 9:56AM	Mr. Richard Boulter	<p>The citizens of this state deserve to have fair and unbiased voting districts! This right is at the heart of our constitution democracy! We need to have an independent redistricting commission to ensure competitive elections, and eliminate super majorities.</p> <p>An independent redistricting commission would insure fair elections and hold legislators more accountable to their constituents.</p> <p>An independent redistricting commission would not racially discriminate voters.</p> <p>An independent redistricting commission would not isolate target individuals from their neighbors.</p> <p>we deserve nothing less.</p>
2422		Aug 8 2017 9:56AM	Rachael Barker	<p>We need an independent, bi-partisan team to handle redistricting. Every person in North Carolina should receive an equal opportunity for their vote to matter. It has been shown time and again that politics and racism is behind the current maps and it is long past time for that racism to be stamped out.</p>
2423		Aug 8 2017 10:02AM	Britt Kaufmann	<p>I would like to see an independent redistricting commission take the primary role in sorting out the new districts. Let's be wise with our taxpayer dollars and sort this out once and for all. We have to redistrict, so let's do it the right way. Make the process non-partisan. Redistrict in a way that is fair to the people and above party. When we have competitive districts our representatives will better serve the people and be less prone to the corruption of outside money (i.e. Ralph Hise).</p> <p>We've been given an opportunity to restore the people's faith in our government. Let's take advantage of that by removing the aisle.</p>
2424		Aug 8 2017 10:18AM	Ms. Susan Larson	<p>I favor setting up an independent redistricting commission to insure a competitive election.</p>
2425		Aug 8 2017 10:25AM	Christopher Guidry	<p>Please create a bipartisan commission for redistricting. Having one party control the process is not only unfair, but it has resulted in a huge waste of time and money in legal fights. In addition, as a voter I have less confidence in the government and the voting process based on unfairly drawn districts.</p>
2426		Aug 8 2017 10:47AM	James Eastwood	<p>I strongly support a non-partisan, independent redistricting process to make voting fair for all North Carolinians. I would like to see an independent redistricting commission created who will give us a fair system, not one tainted by political agenda. Voters should pick their politicians, not the other way around!</p>

2427		Aug 8 2017 11:00AM	Ms. Brittany Wyche	Gerrymandering in North Carolina has been out of control, and based both on racial and political lines. I want these lines to be more fairly drawn to accurately reflect the communities being represented. Ideally, I think an independent, non-partisan group should re-draw these lines, or even a computer that can do so mathematically without preference for either political party. I hope such groups or algorithms will at least be consulted. As a resident of Winston-Salem, I have personally seen how the previous lines unfairly favored certain candidates, despite the overall votes of the county. This does not serve anyone well, and tarnishes the reputation of those entrenched in power through unconstitutional means. Consequently, state and national representatives do not reflect the interests of the state. They are able to play to specific or special interests based on the lines. A particular local example is how Representative Virginia Foxx has managed to maintain her congressional seat by only seeking out approval and votes from wealthy, white residents based on the crazy district lines in Forsyth County. She can ignore the area that she knows will not vote for her anyway. The 5th district (where I live) is one of the most cited examples of gerrymandering in the state and in the country, and it is extremely disheartening and infuriating as a voter.
2428		Aug 8 2017 11:02AM	Mr. Oscar Weinmeister	It is time to stop the cycle of partisan redistricting backlash based on whichever party has controls of the legislature. I am strongly in favor of developing a non-partisan redistricting process by establishing a non-partisan redistricting commission, comprised of retired judges and diverse persons who have not held political office. Other criteria may be necessary to ensure that the commission selection process does not favor one party over the other.
2429		Aug 8 2017 11:14AM	Mrs. Kari Hippert	Congressional districts should not be planned to benefit either political party. Rather, districts should be comprised of citizens who share geographical interests. They should only be set up by population, not by race, or socio economics or political party. I think the present districts are a disgrace to the American system. Our legislators should be working for the betterment of our state not for their personal advancement and re-election.
2430		Aug 8 2017 11:22AM	Mrs. Elizabeth Boulter	I am a citizen of North Carolina and have taught in the NC public schools for twenty-seven years. I think that the severely gerrymandered districts in NC do not serve the people of this state and do not foster a healthy political environment here. We need to swiftly and thoroughly correct this problem by a complete redistricting, and this should be done in as transparent and non-partisan manner as possible.
2431		Aug 8 2017 11:28AM	Mr. james mcwhirter	Please, restore fairness to the voters of our state.
2432		Aug 8 2017 11:29AM	Dr. William Blau	Gerrymandering is undemocratic, unrepresentative, and unfair. Legal challenges to partisan districting have been costly for our state. A well-designed nonpartisan districting system would return to a system where voters choose their representatives instead of representatives choosing their voters.
2433		Aug 8 2017 11:37AM	Mr. James DiMartino	As a former precinct worker during elections (precinct assistant, precinct judge) I am most heartily in favor of an independent, unbiased commission to redraw district lines without bias from political influence. Gerrymandering has been around for a long time, how about letting North Carolina be "First in Fairness" (wouldn't that be a catchy phrase for a license plate?) when it comes to democracy. Thank you for your time.
2434		Aug 8 2017 11:41AM	Lindsay Dinkins	We must have a non-partisan committee to redraw lines without funding from one party or the other to sway their opinion along with an audtto ensure fairness. If you are against this, you're against your constituents.
2435		Aug 8 2017 11:46AM	Deirdre Caudill	I urge the GA to have an independent bipartisan commission redraw the maps
2436		Aug 8 2017 11:51AM	Mrs. Amy Weinmeister	I call for an independent redistricting commission to fix the qerrymandered districts in NC.
2437		Aug 8 2017 11:56AM	Wendy Reid	Be fair. Is that possible?
2438		Aug 8 2017 12:01PM	Ms. Kat Turczyn	An independent redistricting commission would insure fair elections and hold legislators more accountable to their constituents. This is important if we wish to uphold our democracy.
2439		Aug 8 2017 12:06PM	Mr. Keith Lunday	Voters should get to choose their representatives, not the other way around. Anything less than an independent redistricting commission within a system of proportional representation is unfair and unacceptable.
2440		Aug 8 2017 12:18PM	Heather Watrous	An independent redistricting commission would eliminate super-majorities for all time, insure a competitive election, insure fair elections and hold legislators more accountable to their constituents, would not racially discriminate voters, and would not isolate target individuals from their neighbors. The vote is all non-political office-holders have. We MUST have a fair election to be properly represented by legislators who will protect and represent his or her constituents interests accurately and fairly.
2441		Aug 8 2017 12:36PM	Mr. Jeffrey Ford	We need independent redistricting. Voters should get to pick their representatives, not the other way around.

2442		Aug 8 2017 12:37PM	Mrs. Jane Willig	<p>Please move quickly and bipartisanly to correct the gerrymandering that has caused voters around the State of NC to feel unrepresented and unheard.</p> <p>An independent redistricting commission would not racially discriminate voters which should be a priority for all of you!</p>
2443		Aug 8 2017 12:38PM	Dr. Stephen North	For credibility and acceptance of the redistricting process it must be independent of political parties.
2444		Aug 8 2017 12:52PM	Ms. Melanie Restall	<p>An independent redistricting commission would insure fair elections, hold legislators more accountable to their constituents, not racially discriminate voters, and not isolate individuals from their neighbors. For the sake of our Democracy, please move quickly on this crucial issue. Thank you from Western NC. ~Melanie Restall</p>
2445		Aug 8 2017 1:33PM	Ms. Linda Vista	<p>I would like to see North Carolina set an example for the nation to be #1 for fairness to ALL it's residents...instead of the usual and shameful place at the bottom of the heap. KEEP POLITICIANS OUT OF THE REDISTRICTING PROCESS. I only support and trust an independent and professional third party to do this job.</p> <p>Linda Vista</p>
2446		Aug 8 2017 1:52PM	Ashe Lockhart	<p>I would like to see redistributing at all local, state, federal levels be done in such a manner as to eliminate political party influence and control by elected representatives. I feel sure there are ways to make the process produce voting districts more representative, competitive, and fair. It's outrageous that the Dems locked up the process and tilted the field, but it's also a shame that the Republicans have stooped to the same level. You can be better than that.</p>
2447		Aug 8 2017 1:53PM	Mr. Harry Phillips	<p>For years our redistricting methods have favored the party in power. This works against general principles of fairness. Now, the "surgical precision" used by the GOP to redistrict is an example of institutional racism and a source of great embarrassment to our state.</p> <p>Other states struggle with how to redistrict fairly. California, Arizona, and Massachusetts have developed what appear to be sound guidelines.</p> <p>The GOP seems to be delaying as long as possible. After researching the options, there's nothing really magical or confusing about how to redistrict fairly. Establishing a nonpartisan commission is one way to begin. I hope an independent panel emerges that will determine a way forward.</p> <p>Thanks for this opportunity.</p>
2448		Aug 8 2017 2:02PM	Kim Rose	Partisan Advantage: Maintaining or establishing a partisan advantage for any party shall NOT be a criterion for the construction or approval of any House and/or Senate district plans.
2449		Aug 8 2017 3:13PM	Mrs. Carol Aycoth	<p>Please make the redistricting process as transparent as possible. Also try to do it as nonpartisan. It is a waste of tax payer money to keep having to redo the maps. We voted 49-48 for governor. This shouldn't have the district's 11-3 Republican. Do it right and you won't have to do it again!</p>
2450		Aug 8 2017 3:14PM	Jeanne Tilley	<p>I strongly support nonpartisan redistricting, and encourage all members of the NC legislature to do the same.</p> <p>Gerrymandering is undemocratic, unrepresentative, and unfair. Moreover, it decreases competition, and contributes to political polarization. In the 2016 NCGA elections, Republicans received 52% of votes for the House and 56% of votes for the Senate - but they won over 60% of House seats and 70% of Senate seats. I realize political parties are out for victory, but this outcome does not suggest that North Carolina voters *as a whole* are being properly represented.</p> <p>Legal challenges to partisan districting have been costly for our state. I hope the NCGA is able to come together for the good of all North Carolina's citizens, and end partisan or other discriminatory district-drawing practices.</p>
2451		Aug 8 2017 3:43PM	Dr. Patrick Brown	<p>Both political parties in North Carolina have a history of gerrymandering. While the GOP is clearly most recently guilty - the two establishment parties have proven time and again that they can't be trusted with voting maps. I believe that it a redistricting process independent of both parties is vital for fair maps and a process that cannot be abused by the party in power in the future</p>

2452		Aug 8 2017 3:51PM	Mr. Paul Cash	<p>Nothing short of an independent redistricting committee, free from political influence of either party, is acceptable. Especially if the state is going to usurp the ability of cities and counties to run their municipal governments, we should at least have representatives at the state level who reflect the districts they come from.</p> <p>The fact that a large majority of our districts run un-opposed is not because there is complete homogeneity in a drawn district. It is the result of the district being so lop-sided one way or the other it's not feasible to run opposing candidates. Which limits discourse, interest, and turnout.</p> <p>I know this means elections would be more volatile but at least we will be sending representatives who will have to fight for what they say or potentially lose their job. I know that's not in the interest of you who will be voting but I hope you remember how you felt about government before you became a part of the system instead of fighting for self-interest. You will be rewarded for your efforts and returning the</p>
2453		Aug 8 2017 3:57PM	Mrs. Patricia Howlett	I want to end political redistricting. This practice is in conflict with a true Democratic government. Every persons vote should carry equal importance
2454		Aug 8 2017 4:07PM	Patricia Chylko	Hand the redistricting over to a non-partisan panel or a private firm. Let's get it out of the hands of politicians.
2455		Aug 8 2017 4:11PM	Dr. Joni McKeeman	<p>I am writing to support the nonpartisan redistricting in North Carolina. I strongly believe that the state of North Carolina will be much better served if nonpartisan redistricting is implemented. North Carolina was given a score of 7/100 by the Electoral Integrity Project, indicating that our elections do not represent a democratic process. I was recently attending a college recruitment event with my daughter in Virginia, and during a lunch discussion with other parents, one parent informed me that she was originally from North Carolina. She told me that when she tells people she grew up in NC, they often comment with disdain about the state of politics in NC. Our beautiful state has gained a very poor reputation, and the gerrymandering that has taken place in NC is one of the reasons others find our state to be so concerning. I hope that you will consider these issues as you meet to draw new districts. I am hopeful that NC can begin to regain its reputation as a fair and just place to live, one that attracts businesses and families to the state, allowing industry and jobs to grow. As things stand, parents will not be wanting to send their children to our universities and businesses will not be moving to the area because they will have difficulty finding employees who will move with the business. Thank you for considering these issues and my concerns.</p>
2456		Aug 8 2017 4:47PM	Christine Henry	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I respectfully request a nonpartisan redistricting of North Carolina's electorate. Thank you!</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Christine Henry</p>
2457		Aug 8 2017 5:16PM	Ms. Lorelei DiBernardo	I urge you to adopt non-partisan redistricting reform. Whether Democrats or Republicans are in office, it is imperative to draw districts impartially, with full public transparency and citizen participation at all stages. Districts should not be drawn to favor one political party over another. I want, as I am sure you agree, our democracy to function so that the People select their representation, not vice versa. Thank you.
2458		Aug 8 2017 5:24PM	Stephanie Berry	I am calling for an Independent Redistricting Commission to fix, once and for all, the gerrymandered districts in NC. We've got to fix them anyway, so let's do it in a non-partisan manner that restores some faith in the government and the process.
2459		Aug 8 2017 5:33PM	Mr. Alan Gratz	PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE institute an Independent Redistricting Committee to establish our state's voting districts in a fair and non-partisan manner! Both Democrats AND Republicans change the districts to suit their own agendas when they're in power. Let's put a stop to it all! North Carolinians deserve fair and equal representation. Thank you!
2460		Aug 8 2017 6:01PM	Ms. Lily Oster	<p>I'm writing to call for fair legislative maps that protect the right to vote of every North Carolinian. The process for drawing legislative maps should be fair and open and avoid racial and partisan gerrymandering. Best practices suggest that the new districts should be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -compact, coinciding with cities and towns and avoiding splitting counties; -contiguous, meaning that the districts are not merely joined at the corners; -drawn to follow state and federal law, such as the Voting Rights Act; -drawn fairly and without consideration of partisan factors such as voter registration, voter turnout, past election results, and the residence of incumbents <p>Please work to make North Carolina a state where representative government operates fairly once again.</p>
2461		Aug 8 2017 6:20PM	Rebecca Snavelly	<p>An independent redistricting commission would insure fair elections and hold legislators more accountable to their constituents.</p> <p>An independent redistricting commission would not racially discriminate voters.</p> <p>An independent redistricting commission would not isolate target individuals from their neighbors.</p>

2462		Aug 8 2017 7:29PM	Jonathan Pattishall	I'm extremely disappointed in Republicans in the NCGA for drawing up a racist districting map in the first place. Y'all should be ashamed of yourselves; and if you're not, you could at the very least please not repeat the same mistake. It's real easy: draw a map that's not extremely partisan or racist. Please don't embarrass North Carolina like that again
2463		Aug 8 2017 7:58PM	Ms. Berit Jasion	Redistricting must be done as carefully, fairly, quickly , and thoroughly as possible. NC Republicans must stop violating the Constitution or they will face the consequences as the people of NC are fed up with their obsession with hurting the people of this state rather than helping them. Their proposals are archaic, midieval and based on obsolete ideas
2464		Aug 8 2017 9:33PM	Mrs. Donna Maher	ONE person, ONE vote. Time for NC's good ole boy network to end. Racism is disgraceful! Shame on all of you!
2465		Aug 8 2017 9:42PM	Caroline Livengood	I would implore that the committee consider sourcing an outside, unbiased organization or group to handle the redistricting. Our state has more registered Democrats than Republicans, and has become a battleground state in recent years, and even though it did swing slightly right in the past election, it does not account for the Republicans having over 70% of the voting power. This is NOT what the voters wanted, and our voices are not being heard or represented by the representatives elected. North Carolina has been held up as a shining example of gerrymandering and backwards politics these last few years - this is our chance to once again been seen as the standard to which everyone else should aspire. An outside organization would not only bring back the balance of power that is so desperately needed in our legislature, but it could prevent future abuses - from EITHER party. This is not a partisan issue, and should no longer be treated as such. Thank you.
2466		Aug 8 2017 10:10PM	Mr. Phillip Gilfus	The history of state and federal courts dealing with NC redistricting efforts in the past 20 years should be well known at this point. Both Democratic and Republican-controlled legislatures in this state have overreached and been overturned by the Supreme Court, as well as lower federal courts. Yet the same mistakes (or purposeful unconstitutional efforts) continue to be made. I humbly ask the members of the N.C. General Assembly, specifically the Republican leadership and redistricting chairs in both chambers, to learn from the missteps of the recent past. The state legislative districts must not "pack" minorities into select districts -- they should especially not "overpack," with lopsided percentages in specially created "minority majority" districts. I applaud the recent GOP efforts at compactness -- while in and of itself not a guarantee of constitutionality, nevertheless the recent federal maps created districts that look more compact than any that have been drawn in decades. North Carolinians want districts that look like districts - compact, fair, representative, and competitive. I understand that the party in power wishes to remain the party in power. In the past, this has been the Democrats, and now it is the Republicans. However, especially in light of the upcoming Wisconsin redistricting case being heard by the U.S. Supreme Court this next term, maps and districts should be more competitive among the two parties (and, in light of increasing "unaffiliated" registrations), not less. The state districts we see from this General Assembly should be A) more compact, e.g., easily understood by voters, B) more diffusive of minority populations among the districts, with "majority minority" districts having a lower percentage and not being "overpacked" and C) more competitive state House and Senate districts than those currently in effect. These would create the basis for more constitutional districts under the 14th Amendment and the Voting Rights Act. Failure to do so will result in North Carolina, once again, entering the cycle of federal litigation -- and the state's record before the High Court is on the
2467		Aug 8 2017 10:23PM	Ms. Terri Ring	<p>The Legislative Redistricting process is an opportunity for North Carolina to embark on a new era, leaving behind the partisan battles of the past and working for the fair representation of ALL North Carolinians rather than putting party before people. It is, therefore,VERY IMPORTANT that new redistricting maps be guided by the following criteria:</p> <p>Politically Neutral – No addresses of candidates or incumbents should be used, and residents’ voting histories (including primary voting histories) should *not* be considered.</p> <p>Compact and Contiguous – Voters within a district should not be unnecessarily dispersed, and no voting district may be geographically divided, or split, by another district, i.e. all portions of a district must connect.</p> <p>Respect Boundaries – Avoid dividing counties and municipalities where possible.</p> <p>Protect Communities of Interest – Avoid dividing communities of interest where possible. Communities of interest typically have social, cultural, racial, ethnic, and/or economic interests in common.</p> <p>Transparent Process – The process of creating maps should be TRANSPARENT, providing maps as soon as possible, live-streaming meetings, and allowing the public to provide suggestions for changes to the draft maps.</p> <p>Thank you!</p>

2468		Aug 8 2017 10:49PM	Jonathan Engel	Please resist the very strong urge to redistrict with the goal of insuring the dominance of your party. It's unfair to voters and will hurt everyone in the long run when the other side finally takes power with years of resentment brewing. You know this to be the case from your own party's experience. Please do the right thing! It will help us all, Republicans and Democrats by strengthening our democracy.
2469		Aug 8 2017 11:37PM	Mr. Duane Scaggs	Redistricting should be non-partisan and focused on how to best serve the people of North Carolina in exercising their right to vote. There should be specific rules that bar changing districts to favor a particular party. Proposed changes should be required to clearly document the rationale for the changes and be required to demonstrate the benefits to the people.
2470		Aug 9 2017 12:02AM	Mr. Hal Trufan	The criteria should require that the districts should Be compact and contiguous Follow state and federal law Be drawn without considering partisan factors like voter registration, results of previous elections, voter turnout and where the incumbent lives.
2471		Aug 9 2017 6:42AM	Mr. Michael Anderson	districts should be drawn by a non-partisan panel of experts. Gerrymandering encourages gridlock as a politician just needs to run to the far left / right to appeal to their base for re-election. With Gerrymandering, there is no incentive for politicians to find sensible compromise and real solutions. Elected leaders should serve their entire district, not just constituents in their party. Sadly politicians are about self interest and not public service.
2472		Aug 9 2017 7:40AM	Dr. Daniel Barron	I request that Independent Redistricting Commission be formed to fix, once and for all, the gerrymandered districts in NC.
2473		Aug 9 2017 8:06AM	Sarah Scott	We need an independent redistricting committee to begin to have real elections in this state. I support forming such a committee which would use mathematics instead of greed to make these boundaries.
2474		Aug 9 2017 8:07AM	Mrs. Caroline Christopoulos	Redistrict the state in a fair, legal, and non-partisan manner. The gerrymandering that has happened in NC is shameful.
2475		Aug 9 2017 9:14AM	Mr. Jay-Michael Sutton	Four words: Independent Computer-Modeled Districts. History has shown that the "elected" officials in charge of gerrymandering districts never act in the best interest in the voters of NC and want to stay elected and line their pockets. The state Democrats did it for years, but nowhere near as viciously and racist as the current GOP powers-that-be. When a conservative Supreme Court calls your district drawing racist and you hire the same racist fool who drew the lines in the first place to redraw them, you prove you are not interested in helping. The only way to fairly solve this issue is to remove the political and human elements. An independent commission that uses census data and computer modeling to redraw the districts is the only way to go.
2476		Aug 9 2017 9:23AM	Ms. Sylvia Archer	I am asking for an Independent Redistricting Commission to fix, once and for all, the gerrymandered districts in NC. We've got to fix them anyway, so let's do it in a non-partisan manner that restores some faith in the government and the process.
2477		Aug 9 2017 9:38AM	Mr. Kuanyu Chen	To whom it may concern, It's time to let go the pettiness in this bickering partisan politics. You all were elected to represent the people of the greater North Carolina; the votes was not to show you we are in support of your extremely biased and often ill-intended policies that seemly destructive, not only to this great state, but to your personal political career. You are all adults. Please, take a moment in the morning when you wake up and brush your teeth, look into that mirror, and examine, what kind of a person you want to be today. Take a look at yourself, and ask the question, "the way I behaved is acceptable on a school playground?" Sincerely, a concerned citizen
2478		Aug 9 2017 9:40AM	Ms. Cassandra Styles	Quit the gerrymandering.
2479		Aug 9 2017 9:40AM	Mr. Met R. Poston	I support an independent redistricting commission, which would make it more likely that we would have competitive elections. Why, for instance, is Asheville not included in our Congressional district?! An independent redistricting commission would insure fair elections and hold legislators more accountable to their constituents. An independent redistricting commission would also not draw districts in a racially discriminatory manner. An independent redistricting commission would not isolate target individuals from their neighbors.
2480		Aug 9 2017 9:45AM	Mr. Jason Renzaglia	Anything less than an independent redistricting commission within a system of proportional representation is unfair and unacceptable.
2481		Aug 9 2017 11:00AM	Jessica Burroughs	We need impartial, nonpartisan redistricting and a plan to prevent any party from manipulating boundaries to disenfranchise voters.

2482		Aug 9 2017 11:34AM	Mr. Alan Stover	Redistricting should be done in a manner that does not include political parties. Both political ideologies have brilliant ideas for how this state should operate at a government level, and I strongly believe that removing political parties from map-making, and thus also removing gerrymandering, will force both sides of opinion to come together and to work together as one team to govern, a team that fashions both sides of opinion into pieces of legislation that work for the citizens of N.C. The rhetoric from both parties - whether it be local, statewide, or national - is that of two opposing sports rivals, which as a citizen of this state and country, is disturbing. We should not be separating ourselves between Democrat, Republican, etc., but instead unifying ourselves as one team, a team of North Carolinians and ultimately, a team of Americans.
2483		Aug 9 2017 12:12PM	Andrew Wall	The Supreme Court has ruled that a large section of NC districts are illegal and must be redrawn. They should not be redrawn by the man who drew the illegal districts in the first place! Nor should they be redrawn by a partisan group. The new district lines should be redrawn at best by a computerized system that will not respond to partisan interests, but to fair and just parameters. At least, the lines should be redrawn by a panel, independent of either party, whose make-up is balanced, fair, and honest. I believe our current one-party system is destroying our democracy and that fairly redrawing the district lines is the only way to end what is happening now.
2484		Aug 9 2017 12:55PM	Dr. Bok Baek	Ithe redistributing should be done without any political point of view.!!!
2485		Aug 9 2017 1:43PM	Ms. Kelli Keck	Please support a nonpartisan process for drawing new maps insuring that all North Carolinians are fairly represented in the state.
2486		Aug 9 2017 2:24PM	Ms. Aarati Ramanand	<p>To my representatives,</p> <p>As your constituent, I want to see districts drawn that accurately represent ALL the citizens of the state. I want to see these criteria used to create the districts for the NC Senate, the NC House and the US Congressional districts that represent ALL NC residents, not just those of any one party.</p> <p>So what are the guidelines being used? Are districts being considered that are contiguous and make geographic sense? Are you making sure the districts are not diluting voting rights of the residents? Are you making sure there is no discrimination factoring in, racial, political, or otherwise?</p> <p>Please know that I am not accusing NCGA of any of these things. But without a transparent process, we have no way of knowing.</p> <p>Show us you are better than this.</p> <p>Sincere Regards,</p>
2487		Aug 9 2017 2:57PM	Mr. Everette Webb	<p>Please drop the political partisanship when these unconstitutional state House of Representative and Senate districts are being redrawn. The Republican majority has gotten this state in trouble time and gain trying to gerrymander the other party out of existence. Furthermore, you are trying to dilute the votes and influence of North Carolina's African American voters and the courts have found you out. The courts are watching you and you will not be allowed to cheat the voters of North Carolina again.</p> <p>I know you want to do everything in your power to keep your super majorities, but if these house and senate maps are drawn fairly and responsibly that will not happen. This is fairly equally divided state between the two parties, and you know it. And these legislative districts should reflect that balance. Perhaps we need to have a bipartisan/non partisan commission to draw these maps.</p> <p>Finally, I simply don't understand the hiring of Tom Hoffler to draw these maps for the Republicans again. This is the man who, as you know, racially gerrymandered this state the first time, and will try to do it again. It seems as if you all have learned nothing from the previous experience with this gentlemen. As the old adage goes, "Fool me once shame on you; fool me twice shame on me."</p> <p>Lets do better for all the citizens of this great State of North Carolina.</p>
2488		Aug 9 2017 3:25PM	Dr. Chris Mansfield	<p>Please establish fairly balanced voting districts by means of an independent, nonpartisan commission</p> <p>Save our democracy not your seats..</p>

2489	Aug 9 2017 3:51PM	Mr. Todd Killian	I cannot imagine the lack of values and morals it takes to disenfranchise people by making their vote count less. Even if you don't think the vote counts less, you have to admit that the current districting is cheating democracy. Both are reprehensible and prove that the current legislature is a power hungry and bigoted majority of selfish, greedy men. Please fix these borders and restore some semblance of respect back to our state! Obviously, this process should not take long. Simple math or choosing counties based on proximity is very easy. A 3rd grade class could do it in a day. Stop delaying, so you can maintain more power and stuff your pockets as much as you can before the end. Just be respectful human beings and maybe salvation won't be out of your reach. My God judges based upon what you have done for others and most of the GOP in this state surely don't pass that test in my eyes.
2490	Aug 9 2017 4:44PM	Susan Hudson	I want political district maps that are: -fair and open; -avoid racial or partisan gerrymandering; and -allow voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around
2491	Aug 9 2017 4:45PM	Mrs. Marilyn McVicker	Let's get an independent organization to do the redistricting.
2492	Aug 9 2017 4:51PM	Mrs. Allison Delavan	Redistrict fairly!!!!
2493	Aug 9 2017 4:52PM	Mrs. Jo Ann Mount	It is time for fair & reasonable districts. No more district packing!
2494	Aug 9 2017 5:08PM	Ms. JC Honeycutt	I'm sick and tired of the shenanigans that legislators use to make our elections less fair--including creating unfair and un-representative redistricting. As my dad used to say, "Use your head for something besides a hat-rack": use redistricting to make voting in North Carolina more fair for our citizens, not to give your party or faction an electoral edge. Government should be an honor and a responsibility--not a game to see who ends up with the biggest gerrymandered advantage. I will be following your actions, and I will respond according to whether you act for your personal gain or for the rights and equality of North Carolina citizens.
2495	Aug 9 2017 5:08PM	Mrs. Rosemary Carton	We need the maps of North Carolina redrawn FAIRLY!
2496	Aug 9 2017 5:11PM	Betty Gunz	As public officials, you are required to deliver fair maps. Please adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing fair maps, exclude political information including where the incumbent lives from your considerations, and draw compacts districts that don't split communities. Please give us the fair maps we deserve. Thank you.
2497	Aug 9 2017 5:19PM	Mrs. Hazel Poolos	I want districts that are contiguous, with boundaries that are geographic rather than drawn with the intent of diluting votes from either party.
2498	Aug 9 2017 5:20PM	Eleanor Wertman	I write to encourage nonpartisan redistricting of the state to ensure that every North Carolinians' vote counts equally. A fair redistricting process is essential to preserve the integrity of our democracy. Our state's gerrymandered districts have made us a national embarrassment and caused election watchdog groups to declare us to no longer be democratically governed. It is time to end this shameful practice of drawing districts to clearly benefit one party/racial group over the other.
2499	Aug 9 2017 5:26PM	Ms. Marla Drucker	When I was in school I was taught that districts should be contiguous. It seems like they always were until about 20 years ago, but I may be mistaken. One example of bad restricting is the city of Asheville. Please place it back in District 11 where it belongs.
2500	Aug 9 2017 5:27PM	Ms. Carolyn Cox	You must drW LINES FAIR TO ALL
2501	Aug 9 2017 5:32PM	Mr. Randal Pride	undo the gerrymandering and make democracy fair again in NC
2502	Aug 9 2017 5:32PM	Ms. Deborah Dobson	North Carolina needs a fair representation of voters. End gerrymandering NOW!
2503	Aug 9 2017 5:32PM	Ms. Bonnie Wright	I am strongly in favor of independent/non-partisan redistricting. Criteria for redistricting must guarantee a process that is fair and open to the public, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering.
2504	Aug 9 2017 5:32PM	Ms. Laura Goodwin	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. When it comes to ethics, this is a no-brainer.
2505	Aug 9 2017 5:33PM	Ms. Deborah Guttentag	We need districts to be drawn without any consideration of party affiliation. They should be drawn based on population and natural borders. Please put an end to gerrymandering. It is undermining our democracy.
2506	Aug 9 2017 5:33PM	Ms. bennett hollers	I urge you to draw Constitutional maps for the next elections.
2507	Aug 9 2017 5:33PM	Ms. Madge Davis	If one must Gerry to win then they are not concerned about the will and welfare of the Citizens of NC
2508	Aug 9 2017 5:33PM	Mr. Travis Holland	Stop gerrymandering.
2509	Aug 9 2017 5:33PM	Mr. Chris Chaplin	As a citizen of this country, and as a frequent visitor to North Carolina with strong family ties to the state and region, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2510	Aug 9 2017 5:33PM	Mrs. Hazel Poolos	I want a fair, non-partisan, non-discriminatory, non-racial redistricting of voting districts that are contiguous, with boundaries that are geographic--NOT DRAWN WITH THE INTENT OF DILUTING VOTES FROM EITHER PARTY.

2511		Aug 9 2017 5:34PM	Dr. Marilyn Hartman	I live in North Carolina, and am concerned about how the new redistricting maps are getting drawn. The courts have spoken, and I urge you to create a process that is fair and transparent, without racial gerrymandering. I want everyone to be represented fairly so that each person can choose the representatives they want, without the maps diluting their voice. No gerrymandering!
2512		Aug 9 2017 5:34PM	Ms. Meredith Haggerty	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. The Supreme Court agrees! We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. The winner should be the choice of the people, not determined by whoever can draw the most beneficial map.
2513		Aug 9 2017 5:35PM	Mr. Bert Barry	I urge the state of North Carolina to take all necessary steps to end permanently the pernicious practice of gerrymandering. Bert Barry
2514		Aug 9 2017 5:35PM	Mrs. Joyce Harvey	End gerrymandering now.
2515		Aug 9 2017 5:35PM	Mrs. veda roberts	We need fair and equal redistricting
2516		Aug 9 2017 5:35PM	Ms. Marie Zaret	It's time to end partisan gerrymandering. Please create geographical districts that make sense and give the voter back the right to choose their representatives and senators.
2517		Aug 9 2017 5:35PM	Mrs. Jennifer Walker	The drawing of the new districts MUST be done in a fair and nonpartisan way. Enough of this gerrymandering by either party! Hurry it up! The courts won't wait forever as they've told you!
2518		Aug 9 2017 5:35PM	Susan Grosoff-Feinblatt	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2519		Aug 9 2017 5:36PM	Ms. Susan Fletcher	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2520		Aug 9 2017 5:36PM	James Marsh	Please redistrict gerrymandered districts!
2521		Aug 9 2017 5:36PM	Mr. James Baker	Stop the gerrymandering.....start east to west draw 600M or whatever the number then move to district 2.....what are u guys problem.....JBaker
2522		Aug 9 2017 5:36PM	Mrs. Beverly Hammond	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2523		Aug 9 2017 5:36PM	Marvin Feinblatt	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2524		Aug 9 2017 5:36PM	Ms. Zola Packman	Hey, for once: Just do the right thing without chiseling. A lot of people will be grateful for it.
2525		Aug 9 2017 5:36PM	Mr. Larry Hale	In order for our state to have genuine representation in it's elections,the deliberate act of gerrymandering must be outlawed.
2526		Aug 9 2017 5:37PM	Lynne Weborg	In Wisconsin we have been so gerrymandered that tho 60% vote for the democratic candidates, we have been "taken over" by republicans in the gubernatorial office as well as the senate and assembly. This is NOT the way democracy should work!
2527		Aug 9 2017 5:37PM	Mr. Rick Wynne	As a resident of North Carolina. I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our maps drawn in a way that guarantees that everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want
2528		Aug 9 2017 5:37PM	Ms. Agnes Crews	I urge you to prepare non-partisan districts open to all eligible voters. I am ready for a fair and equal approach to elections in North Carolina. Please, no more gerrymandering! Thank you
2529		Aug 9 2017 5:38PM	Dr. Gavin Dillard	Stop cheating and come clean. It's time to fix this. End gerrymandering NOW.
2530		Aug 9 2017 5:38PM	Mrs. Linda Kehew	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering! We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that GUARANTEES everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want!
2531		Aug 9 2017 5:38PM	Mr. Keith Cutler	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is FAIR, OPEN and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want
2532		Aug 9 2017 5:38PM	Dr. Marilyn Collins	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.

2533		Aug 9 2017 5:39PM	Ms. Janet Flowers	As a citizen of North Carolina, I am firmly in favor of redistricting that is fair and equal to members of all races and both parties. Please make certain that there is no longer racial or partisan gerrymandering. We have too many challenges and opportunities to squander them by giving up our right to vote unhindered by these inequalities.
2534		Aug 9 2017 5:39PM	Mr. Edward Wolfsohn	Let the best person win by the fairest method!
2535		Aug 9 2017 5:39PM	Ms. Jeanne Martin	I believe it's imperative for our democracy that we use nonpartisan commissions to draw district lines. Gerrymandering done by any party is unacceptable.
2536		Aug 9 2017 5:39PM	Ms. Susan Morance	I support ending gerrymandering. We need to make sure voting is fair and reflects all our citizens.
2537		Aug 9 2017 5:39PM	Mrs. Deborah Beroth	I am a life long resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. We want our voice to count. The public overwhelming wants an independent committee to draw these maps. We all know the harmful impact that partisan and racial gerrymandering has had in our state. It's deprived us of our right to pick our representatives and instead lets politicians pick and choose their voters. I supports a redistricting process that doesn't allow our legislative maps to be drawn along political lines and purposefully divides communities of color to weaken their political power. Please apply the
2538		Aug 9 2017 5:40PM	Mrs. Leslie Harty	Stop playing politics and give citizens a voice.
2539		Aug 9 2017 5:40PM	Mr. Jim Webb	This Redistricting has put me in districts that adjoin Haywood county but don't seem to care much about a precinct or two over the mountain in another countv. Makes no sense
2540		Aug 9 2017 5:40PM	Ms. NM SINREICH	Decency
2541		Aug 9 2017 5:41PM	Mrs. Joyce Harvey	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2542		Aug 9 2017 5:41PM	Mrs. Joni Torres	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. Some of the current are blatantly racist in the way they were drawn and is a stain on the state's reputation. Let's move into the next century folks and stop trying to keep us in the dark ages
2543		Aug 9 2017 5:41PM	Mrs. Bonnie Westbrook	As a resident of North Carolina, I strongly urge you to select criteria for redistricting that guarantees a process that is fair and open, and prevents ANY racial and partisan gerrymandering. We the people of North Carolina deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented. We need a process that lets us choose the representatives we want, without bias or gerrymandering. I'm ashamed of our elected representatives that try to game the process - for either party. While one party may be in power now, we need a process that stands the test of time regardless of the current level of political power between the parties. We all know the harmful impacts that partisan and racial gerrymandering has had in our state. Actions by our gerrymandered elected officials (the notorious bathroom bill for one) have made North Carolina the butt of way too many late night talk show jokes - and deservedly so - so let's all stop acting for political self interests first, and take the right steps to strengthen our democracy!
2544		Aug 9 2017 5:42PM	Ms. Sherri Herndon	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. We all know the harmful impact that partisan and racial gerrymandering has had in our state. It's deprived us of our right to pick our representatives and instead lets politicians pick and choose their voters.
2545		Aug 9 2017 5:42PM	Mrs. Sue Tuman	Please write legislation that will permanently prevent ALL gerrymandering of legislative districts. And then, PASS IT. Thanks.
2546		Aug 9 2017 5:42PM	Mr. Keith Bearman	The Democrats got it wrong. The Republicans are getting it wrong. We really need a non-partisan redistricting plan. District lines that actually make sense.
2547		Aug 9 2017 5:43PM	Dr. David Preston	We get to choose who represents us; you don't get to choose your voters. If you have any manhood, you won't be afraid to compete on a level nlavinga field.

2548		Aug 9 2017 5:43PM	Mr. WAYNE ALLEY	As a resident of North Carolina I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representative we want.
2549		Aug 9 2017 5:43PM	Ms. Kathleen Duffy	We all know the harmful impact that partisan and racial gerrymandering has had in our state. It's deprived us of our right to pick our representatives and instead lets politicians pick and choose their voters. As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. I ask that you require an open, transparent algorithm drawing districts based on population and compactness as an improvement upon the status quo, where politicians draw the boundaries that best serve their interests. Require state legislators to voluntarily cede their redistricting powers to a computer program.
2550		Aug 9 2017 5:43PM	Mr. Ezra Farber	GERRYMANDERING DEBASES DEMOCRACY As a resident of North Carolina, I want non-partisan, fair redistricting. Our state has spent way too much money defending racist districts. The Supreme Court of the United States has struck down this regressive, racist districting. I have been canvassing for months now and everybody, Republican and Democrat alike, is disgusted by the notion that self-serving legislators draw maps that ensure their re-election. Your cynical and corrupt gerrymandering must end. It's time for impartial districts that don't have to change every time the balance of
2551		Aug 9 2017 5:43PM	Ms. Claire Marsh	Please make sure that the redistricting is done in a fair way. We do not want districts that are shaped strangely in order to help one party or politician to win. That's not how a democracy works. If people in power use their power to assure that they win again & again, then people will be fed up with such a rigged system and may not participate at all. That is also not how a democracy works. Thank you.
2552		Aug 9 2017 5:44PM	Tom Kociemba	My left cheek is in one district my right in another. Democracy is in the middle.Politicians are chosing their votes instead of the voters chosing their politicians.
2553		Aug 9 2017 5:44PM	Mr. Robert McCurdy	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2554		Aug 9 2017 5:44PM	Mr. Greg Hamby	Please comply with the Supreme Court decision to redistrict the 28 NC districts found to be illegal...this is the law mandated by The Constitution
2555		Aug 9 2017 5:44PM	Ms. Rahni Sumler	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2556		Aug 9 2017 5:44PM	Dr. Sarah Squire	I am extremely concerned about gerrymandering. It is absolutely unethical and against the principles of a functioning democracy. As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. This process should be managed by a bipartisan committee in order for it to be respected and trusted by the people of our state. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2557		Aug 9 2017 5:44PM	Mr. Pat Vescio	The artificial structuring of districts is just wrong and unfair, regardless of who does it. Playing these games to benefit one party must not be allowed to continue. Gerrymandering must be strictly prohibited
2558		Aug 9 2017 5:45PM	Dr. Florence Dore	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2559		Aug 9 2017 5:45PM	Ms. ESTHER MEGILL	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2560		Aug 9 2017 5:45PM	Dr. Timothy Lindeman	As a resident of North Carolina, I want fair and open redistricting, one that prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.

2561		Aug 9 2017 5:46PM	Ms. C. Andi Locke Mears	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. Please make this happen!
2562		Aug 9 2017 5:46PM	Mr. Alex Bishel	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2563		Aug 9 2017 5:47PM	Ms. Diane Fulcher	Representation for all, not just the few!!!
2564		Aug 9 2017 5:47PM	Mr. Larry Hannon	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. We all know the harmful impact that partisan and racial gerrymandering has had in our state. It's deprived us of our right to pick our representatives and instead lets politicians pick and choose their voters.
2565		Aug 9 2017 5:47PM	Mr. Edward Brophy	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2566		Aug 9 2017 5:48PM	Ms. Elizabeth Steele	NC residents need and want fair redistricting. It is discouraging to vote when you know your vote won't matter because you live in a gerrymandered district. NC is tired of partisanship and revenge politics. Legislators know what the right thing is. Just do it.
2567		Aug 9 2017 5:48PM	Dr. Brnda Rubens	North Carolina has been severely impacted by unfair gerrymandering of districts by Republicans who want to make sure their GOP candidates get elected. Only by redrawing the districts fairly can NC move forward and elect representatives who truly reflect the districts they serve. End gerrymandering now and redraw NC districts!
2568		Aug 9 2017 5:48PM	Mrs. Barbara Houston	I am a resident of North Carolina, and it is critically important to me that the criteria for redistricting guarantees a process that is both fair and open, and also prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and equitably represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2569		Aug 9 2017 5:49PM	Mr. Adam Versenyi	I have been a resident of North Carolina for twenty-nine years and believe that all residents of our state deserve a fair and open redistricting process that prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. All of us deserve legislative maps that are fairly and equally drawn and allow each citizen of North Carolina to elect the representative of their choice.
2570		Aug 9 2017 5:49PM	Mrs. Kathleen Craig	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. Please. It is time to restore faith in the democratic process. It is all too obvious that it is dangerous to allow this to continue. we the people are not being represented fairly. One person one voted equal weight. Our founding fathers set up this system in a very fair way with checks and balances. Manipulations of the system is a detriment to the continuation of the democratic process. Thank you, Kathy Craig
2571		Aug 9 2017 5:49PM	Ms. Chris Ekstedt	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2572		Aug 9 2017 5:50PM	Ms. jeanne hochstatter	let us all vote, pleeezzz
2573		Aug 9 2017 5:51PM	Ms. Barbara Mishoe	How would your parents and grandparents react to know that you, their child and grandchild, is working so hard in a dishonest manner to keep folks from voting in their normal area. Shame on each and everyone of you and may the voting wrath hit you hard!
2574		Aug 9 2017 5:51PM	Mr. Stephen Melott	Calling on you to ensure that redistricting is fair and equal, and that districts are not drawn along political party or racial lines.
2575		Aug 9 2017 5:52PM	Mrs. Sandra Riggs	I want redistricting to be fair, open & nonpartisan. Every citizen deserves to have their vote count equally & not be put into oddly contrived districts that favor any political party over another.
2576		Aug 9 2017 5:52PM	Ms. Bethany A. Dusenberry	Gerrymandering should be made illegal.The practice compromises democracy. Please stop this practice.

2577		Aug 9 2017 5:52PM	Ms. Holliday Adams	Thank you for sending this opportunity to me. I am vehemently opposed to gerrymandering. I know it is the root of destroying democracy for all. Please continue to change this trend of North Carolina.
2578		Aug 9 2017 5:52PM	Mrs. Frances Melott	NC redistricting MUST be fair and equal, and not done according to political party or racial lines.
2579		Aug 9 2017 5:53PM	Mrs. Stacey Flur	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2580		Aug 9 2017 5:53PM	Frances Waugh	Regarding gerrymandering in the district's of NC.This needs to stop.
2581		Aug 9 2017 5:54PM	Kim Preish	Fair redistrictiing is the ONLY way to give voters the power to choose their legislators-the ones that are supposed to represent us and work towards and fight for what is best for their constituents!
2582		Aug 9 2017 5:55PM	Ms. Wilhelma Cooper	As a North Carolina resident, I want the criteria for redistricting to be fair and one that prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. Our legislative maps should be drawn to guarantee our choice of the rerepresentatives we want. It should be fair and and equatable.
2583		Aug 9 2017 5:56PM	Mrs. Terri Rosenberg	I want all people in this state to be guaranteed equal and fair representation. Gerrymandering never has and never will accomplish this and it must be stopped.
2584		Aug 9 2017 5:56PM	M C	Please stop all gerrymandering. Voting districts should not be decided by socio-economic aspects. Make it fair and square.
2585		Aug 9 2017 5:57PM	Ms. Lauren Zuckerman-Booth	Please stop gerrymandering!!!!
2586		Aug 9 2017 5:57PM	Mr. James Cooke	Fundamental to our democracy is trust in fair and open elections to public office. Unfortunately districts across our state and country are so gerrymandered that the outcome of many elections is never in doubt. This, along with voter suppression tactics, has eroded both confidence and participation in the democratic process and must be remedied. Please correct this unjust practice and craft new districts that fairly represent a cross section of the citizens racially and politically. The time is now. Thank you.
2587		Aug 9 2017 5:59PM	Mr. Richard Ashton	We need a permanent independent non-partisan commission with the authority to establish electoral districts. Research indicates numerous examples of such commissions that should be examined. Approximately 20 states currently have such commissions. Get to work now! End the illegitimate, illegal GOP Controlled General Assembly! END GERRYMANDERING NOW.
2588		Aug 9 2017 5:59PM	Mr. Jerry Goodnight	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2589		Aug 9 2017 5:59PM	Mr. George Czerw	As a citizen and resident of the State of North Carolina, I want to state that I believe that a true and representative democracy requires that voting districts be drawn up in a manner that accurately represents the makeup of the citizenry in that physical area. Partisan and racial gerrymandering has deprived the citizens of North Carolina of their right to choose who will represent their interests in government, whether it be at the state or federal level, and has, instead, unjustly institutionalized a system whereby incumbent politicians get to pick and choose voters who will re-elect them. I firmly believe that any criteria for redistricting must guarantee a process that is fair, open, and will prevent any partisan and/or racial gerrymandering. The citizens of North Carolina deserve to have their legislative district maps drawn up in a manner which will guarantee that every citizen is: 1) equitably and fairly represented in government, and; 2) able to choose the representative that they want to see in government. In this day and age, I believe that it is far overdue that we act to permanently get politics, partisanship and race out of the legislative redistricting process.
2590		Aug 9 2017 6:00PM	Ms. Patricia Lowder	This is a Democracy to redistrict is to make a mockery of our Constitution
2591		Aug 9 2017 6:00PM	Mrs. Karen Wagoner	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees that everyone is equally and fairly represented and let's us choose e representatives we want. That makes for a free and democratic society and not a totalitarian regime.
2592		Aug 9 2017 6:00PM	Anne C Dahle	We need to quickly prepare new voting districts that are fair based on number of voters, not by black, white, or nationality of origin.p Please take care of this before November elections I appreciate your willingness to serve, but I think we need for you to serve all of NC

2593		Aug 9 2017 6:01PM	Mr. bob coleman	Elections were designed to create a fair forum for people to vote. The extreme gerrymandering that exists in this state is designed to restrict, as much as possible, minority & democratic voting. It is the RIGHT for ALL of the people to be heard through the vote in North Carolina.
2594		Aug 9 2017 6:02PM	Mr. Don de Boisblanc	Gerrymandering erodes public confidence in the institutions of Democracy. History has never been kind to those who actively promote this kind of voter disenfranchisement.
2595		Aug 9 2017 6:02PM	Pat Shane	We districts but let's determine them with logical, geographic districts not by politicians' desires for political gain.
2596		Aug 9 2017 6:03PM	Mr. Fred Martin	This is illegal what you have done in This state with gerrymandering. Let make North Carolina great again and redistrict legally.
2597		Aug 9 2017 6:03PM	Bruce Coston	Stop the insanity .
2598		Aug 9 2017 6:03PM	Mrs. Teresa Blank	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. I would also like to see presidential election day be designated a holiday, and automatic voter registration enacted to increase voter turnout, and insure fair elections.
2599		Aug 9 2017 6:05PM	Tony Martignetti	I'm sick of your racial gerrymandering. You embarrass NC.
2600		Aug 9 2017 6:05PM	Dr. Sonia Archer-Capuzzo	Please pass redistricting reform to make the process non-partisan. Our state will be stronger if everyone's vote counts.
2601		Aug 9 2017 6:08PM	David Jordan	Without fair and level playing fields, voter becom cynical and lose interest in democracy.
2602		Aug 9 2017 6:08PM	Mr. Clay Scott	Gerrymandering is an evil that must be eliminated. It is unfair and it should be unconstitutional.
2603		Aug 9 2017 6:09PM	Mr. John Chipman	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2604		Aug 9 2017 6:09PM	Mr. Barry Winston	As a Democrat, I know my party has contributed it's share to this problem in the past. As a life-long Tar Heel,I ask you to prove yourselves above such partisanship and provide us with districting that guarantees fair voting for all of us without regard to race or party affiliation.
2605		Aug 9 2017 6:10PM	Mr. Robert Wendel	Someone should look at the number of registered republicans and democrats in NC. Based on the overall ratio, the commission should put counties together such that the ratio of the number of districts with majorities in the parties mimic the overall ratio. Also, the districts should contain only whole counties, and not split counties between districts. There should also be a timeframe after which the process should be repeated based on new population ratios.
2606		Aug 9 2017 6:10PM	Mr. Ken Mauney	All elections must be fair and honest. The supreme court has determined that our current gerrymandered districts are neither. New districts should be determined by a non-partisan group of citizens, not by the ruling party. That is the ONLY way that our voting districts can be fair and honest
2607		Aug 9 2017 6:11PM	Mr. thomas Lux	Time to end gerrymandering!!!!
2608		Aug 9 2017 6:11PM	Dr. Jordan Councill	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. Please assign a non-partisan, independent group to redraw lines going forward. We all need to work together to move our country forward. We cant do that if we don't do so with transparency and represent the voters of NC
2609		Aug 9 2017 6:14PM	Jane Brody	Drawing district to increased the power of some voters and decrease the power of others is inherently wrong. One person, one equally weighted vote. All else distorts our democracy. If a party cannot win an election without gerrymandering then they are not truly the people's representatives.

2610		Aug 9 2017 6:15PM	Mr. Rod Chaney	<p>I ask the committee to consider a few items when addressing new maps for the 2018 and 2020 elections. I beg you to consider giving Northern Rural Orange and Rural Durham Counties some form of competitive district map. The Democrats have complained about “fairness” when it comes to district matchups for the last 3 election cycles but their actions show they are not the least bit concerned about what is truly fair. One look at their actions rather than their words exposes how they make the rules to insure their definition of “fairness” is maintained in Orange County.</p> <p>Northern Orange has ZERO voice politically and the Democrats have arranged the system to keep it that way. About 20 years ago after much outrage, Democrats finally allowed Orange County Commissioners to be “elected” by district instead of “At Large.” There would be 3 people representing district 1 (Chapel Hill), 2 people representing district 2 (Northern/rural Orange), as well as 2 “At Large” positions. Sounds good right? NO! They allow the primaries to compete by district but in the November/general election they allow Chapel Hill (district 1) to vote on who will represent Northern Orange County (district 2) thus insuring that the Orange County Commissioners remain 100% Democrat, not merely an overwhelming majority. Can you imagine what the Democrats would say if the situation was reversed? Now this is all “legal” by State statutes drawn up by the Democrats but in order to change it you must have standing in Raleigh and the Democrat “representing” Northern Orange and Durham adamantly refuses to even allow that to be a possibility.</p> <p>I beg you to consider creating a district that is somewhat “fair” in the truest sense of that word. The current “Common Cause” map does not address this inequity.</p>
2611		Aug 9 2017 6:15PM	Ms. Deborah Bair	i resent like all get out having to,vote in what are basically illegal elections.
2612		Aug 9 2017 6:15PM	Ms. Robin Sanchez	I have been watching this issue closely. I am reaching out today because I want my voice heard. As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. To do anything other than this is unconscionable.
2613		Aug 9 2017 6:15PM	Ms. Kay Bedingfield	Our elected officials are supposed to represent the citizens who reside in specific geographic areas. To change the boundaries of the areas of residence is to cheat them of their right to decide who represents them as our Constitution allows. We are above the need to cheat!
2614		Aug 9 2017 6:16PM	Ms. Mary Smyth	Please put an end to unfair gerrymandering, which prevents the fair rights of the voters to be accurately represented.
2615		Aug 9 2017 6:16PM	Ms. Sharon Foster	The deadline for a new proposed plan re:existing gerrymandering:9-1.Today is 8-9, and nothing has been done. Party in power-We are watchina and want vou do-nothings to pav.
2616		Aug 9 2017 6:16PM	Mr. Donald Harland	We need legislative districts that represents the population as it exists within logical geographical boundaries. Districts should not be drawn to promote racism, or for partisan interests. Party affiliation should not be a factor in forming legislative districts. Voting should be easy, convenient, fair, and free of efforts to manipulate the results of the vote. This is a democracy and our voting districts should represent all the people without any effort to bias the result.
2617		Aug 9 2017 6:16PM	Mr. Michael Eisenberg	The people have spoken and now the courts have too. It's time, past timele, to let the voters pick their representation. Fair maps now drawn by an independent commission.
2618		Aug 9 2017 6:17PM	Nicola Jordan	Neither racial nor partisan gerrymandering is acceptable. Please ensure the the redistricting process will be fair and open to the public. The health of our democracy depends on voters choosing their representatives, not vice versa. No matter which party is in the majority, this is a basic principle.
2619		Aug 9 2017 6:17PM	Mr. James Grady	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented in a fair and unbiased democratic process.
2620		Aug 9 2017 6:18PM	Mr. Thomas Liebttag	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2621		Aug 9 2017 6:18PM	Ms. Pam McNeil	<p>Remember fairness? Remember openness in politics? We need that again, and you are responsible for making it happen.</p> <p>As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
2622		Aug 9 2017 6:19PM	Mrs. Juliana Wilson	I want an independent body to draw our districts so neither party can manipulate them.

2623		Aug 9 2017 6:21PM	Mr. michael reid hunter	<p>Dear Assembly Members;</p> <p>North Carolina has become the focus and the laughingstock for our devolution from a state that supported cutting-edge technologies to a racist, uneducated miasmas of a state that denies equal voter contribution and sponsors absurd, homophobic bills like the "bathroom bill" that cost taxpayers a billion dollars in lost revenue.</p> <p>Gentleman, you work as REPRESENTATIVES of the electorate, not paid shoe-shiners of corporate sponsors. I am stating that the gerrymandering chaos that you perpetuate to maintain your gravy train will stop, whether by lack of votes or a Supreme Court mandate. I urge you to quit now and save our state any further embarrassment on your behalf, if that is indeed possible.</p>
2624		Aug 9 2017 6:22PM	Ms. Carol Dugger	<p>It is only right that our elections be conducted with integrity. We depend on you who represent us to keep our electoral districts drawn fairly and that no one has a thumb on the scale. No one. Let the people elect the candidates that best represent their philosophy and their needs</p>
2625		Aug 9 2017 6:22PM	Mr. David McLintock	<p>As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.</p>
2626		Aug 9 2017 6:22PM	Mr. John Vanover	<p>This is truly laughable; the thought of an organization (GOP) whose very existence depends of altering the electorates' actions as much as possible, being in favor, or acquiesing in any manner, for fair districts is ridiculous. We know who you and we know your "values". Your survival depends on corrupting democracy as much as possible.</p>
2627		Aug 9 2017 6:23PM	Mr. dave palumbo	<p>free and fair elections includes fair, non partisan districts and free access to the polls for everyone regardless of the voting patterns of their race, ethncity, sex or inability to bribe publically elected officials and burocrats.</p>
2628		Aug 9 2017 6:24PM	Mrs. AnnMarie Clark	<p>It is past time to stop fighting the Supreme Court decision to fairly redistrict in our state. Let's start practicing fair politics. Allow the people of North Carolina to fairly pick the representatives we would like to see renrepresenting us.</p>
2629		Aug 9 2017 6:25PM	Ms. Kristina Heiks	<p>Gerrymandering is destroying the democratic process and drastically increases the problems of extremist views (both left and right) and public polarization. Holding office becomes a matter of retaining power rather than acting in the public interest. If we want real dialogue and moderate policies that address the interests of a diverse population, gerrymandering needs to end</p>
2630		Aug 9 2017 6:28PM	Marc Flur	<p>I am tired of gerrymandering and want fair and balanced districting.</p>
2631		Aug 9 2017 6:28PM	Ms. Shirley Werner	<p>As a citizen of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. Our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.</p>
2632		Aug 9 2017 6:30PM	Penny Miller	<p>As a North Carolina resident, I want the redistricting criteria to guarantee a process that is fair, open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We expect legislative maps drawn in a way that ensures everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.</p>
2633		Aug 9 2017 6:30PM	Ms. Elizabeth Blankenship	<p>I am very disappointed and dismayed by the growing partisanship in gerrymandering, particularly in my district of Arden, which looks like a reptile, and goes all the way down to Gastonia.Do you really think the piedmont town of Gastonia and Asheville have anything in common except a manufactured political goal of electing as many Republicans as possible? I'm a native and I've never seen it this bad. We must stand together or fall apart Lisa Blankenshin</p>
2634		Aug 9 2017 6:31PM	Ms. Lynne Walter, MSW	<p>Our current legislative districts are unconstitutional and, therefore, do not represent the will of the people of North Carolina. As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees every North Carolinian is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.</p> <p>Partisan and racial gerrymandering have deprived us of our right to pick our representatives and, instead, has let politicians pick and choose their voters.</p> <p>North Carolinians of every political stripe support a redistricting process that doesn't allow our legislative maps to be drawn along political lines and purposefully divide communities of color to weaken their political power.</p> <p>We MUST have fair and independent redistricting now!</p>
2635		Aug 9 2017 6:33PM	Ms. Stacey Cannon	<p>As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. We all know the harmful impact that partisan and racial gerrymandering has had in our state. It's deprived us of our right to pick our representatives and instead lets politicians pick and choose their voters.</p>

2636		Aug 9 2017 6:33PM	Mr. Dwayne Dvoracek	I support NON-PARTISAN redistricting OUTSIDE of the Legislature. I realize this will require a NC Constitutional amendment & can not be done in time to comply with the current court rulings. BUT I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2637		Aug 9 2017 6:33PM	Mrs. Joan Jöbsis	We need redistricting that is free of partisan or racial bias. We deserve to have each vote count. We deserve to be able to choose our represntatives fairly. End gerrymandering.
2638		Aug 9 2017 6:35PM	Mr. Henry Lewis	Not rocket science guys. Follow the spirit of the law and let go of the desire to Gerrymander for political gain. unfair gains due to subterfuge only leads to more corruption, high blood pressure and eventually jail and disarace.
2639		Aug 9 2017 6:37PM	Mrs. Eileen McMillan	It is time to stop all of the partisan politics and bickering and draw up fair and equitable voting districts as the courts have ordered NC to do. All residents have a right to be heard through the voting system. Let's end the gerrymandering that has persistently made NC the laughing stock of the country. What are the Legislators afraid of??? Voting participants make our democracy stronger! Do your job!
2640		Aug 9 2017 6:37PM	Mr. Robert Griffin	time to be americans and quit the powers plays that leave everyone in harms way except the very rich.
2641		Aug 9 2017 6:38PM	Mrs. Mary Ann Till	"public servants" have turned into corporate prostitutes. STOP THE GERRYMANDERING NOW....Allow all citizens to have their voice heard without the need for specific voting areas. It should always be an OPEN FORUM for citizens to vote.
2642		Aug 9 2017 6:39PM	Mrs. Anne Denise Van Syckle	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. NO MORE PARTISAN GERRYMANDERING!!
2643		Aug 9 2017 6:41PM	Mrs. Stacie Borrello	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2644		Aug 9 2017 6:46PM	Martin Greenhut	It is important to map the voting districts fairly in order for our votes to count. As it is now the candidates are choosing their voters and we do not have the representation that is needed in a democratic state assembly. Thank you for your consideration
2645		Aug 9 2017 6:48PM	Mrs. Susan Percy	Stop the n madness.
2646		Aug 9 2017 6:48PM	Dr. Heide Coppotelli	It is the wellbeing of our country, not ideologies and political victories, that are at stake in the fair drawing of legislative districts. Divided, we fall. All of us.
2647		Aug 9 2017 6:51PM	Mr. Stephen Phillips	As a resident of North Carolina, I believe that our legislative maps should be drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2648		Aug 9 2017 6:55PM	Dr. Richard Honeycutt	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2649		Aug 9 2017 6:56PM	Mr. Stephen ADVOKAT	Looking forward to voting out all the lowlifes who stole my Democracy from me.
2650		Aug 9 2017 6:56PM	Mrs. Barbara Phillips	As a resident of North Carolina, I believe that our current legislative maps provide a poor example for our children and destroy their belief in democracy. They should be drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and rensented.
2651		Aug 9 2017 6:58PM	Ms. Charlotte Preswood	Folks Please understand that no one should be restricting citizens right to vote in a district that makes sense. Please start working for and not against the citizens of North Carolina.
2652		Aug 9 2017 7:01PM	Matthew Vande	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. We all know the harmful impact that partisan and racial gerrymandering has had in our state. It's deprived us of our right to pick our representatives and instead lets politicians pick and choose their voters.
2653		Aug 9 2017 7:04PM	Dr. Linda Holland-Toll	Stop the gerrymandering. It s blatant racist attempt to funnel power to Republicans by redistricting.
2654		Aug 9 2017 7:07PM	Dr. Robert Voelker	The North Carolina house and senate seats should be redrawn without gerrymandering.
2655		Aug 9 2017 7:10PM	Ms. Beth Alexander	End gerrymandering. It subverts the Constitution.
2656		Aug 9 2017 7:12PM	Dr. PAUL KIM	Gerrymandering is evil and wrong. Fair districts are better because either side can win via people's votes. Do the right thing!

2657		Aug 9 2017 7:12PM	Jennifer Castillo	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. With the political atmosphere becoming so divisive, the preferential division to favor a particular party only further divides. Enough! NC residents demand equality and to be fairly represented. Please do what's right and just for ALL North Carolina residents.
2658		Aug 9 2017 7:14PM	Ms. S. Elizabeth Rountree	Do the right thing for all the people of NC!
2659		Aug 9 2017 7:14PM	Dr. Jon Haebig	We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering.
2660		Aug 9 2017 7:14PM	Mr. Lee Miller	You politicians should stop this abominably practice of choosing your voters and let an independent commission draw political boundaries so that all elections are competitive. Why are you afraid of democracy upon which this nation was founded.
2661		Aug 9 2017 7:14PM	Mr. george garcia	An attack on voters and redistribution of votes will be met with dire consequences in 2018. The voters are tired of being manhandled while paying their due taxes. No taxation without representation. We will send the culnrirts back to their masters.
2662		Aug 9 2017 7:15PM	Ms. Virginia Sullivan	Gerrymandering is anti-democracy, no matter who does it. Districts should be drawn up by a bipartisan group and be unaffected by voting records, race, party, or economic status. Virginia
2663		Aug 9 2017 7:15PM	Mrs. Denise Szymanski	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2664		Aug 9 2017 7:17PM	Mr. Thomas Dillon	We need computer-designed election districts that are not gerrymandered to favor one party or another. It's long past time this is done.
2665		Aug 9 2017 7:18PM	Deborah Wooley	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2666		Aug 9 2017 7:18PM	Ms. Diane Ilardi	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2667		Aug 9 2017 7:21PM	Ms. Katherine Scott	Please end gerrymandering! As citizens, we need to know we are fairly represented in the state legislature. I don't have specific advice on this, but I want you to know I care about what you are doing.
2668		Aug 9 2017 7:22PM	Mr. Barry Anderson	Gerrymandering hacks every single election. When will the USA find the will and courage to truly demand fair elections where everyone's vote really counts?
2669		Aug 9 2017 7:23PM	Mr. thomas pieracci	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2670		Aug 9 2017 7:24PM	Ms. Gayle Ruedi	Democracy requires legislative districts that represent contiguous areas that are drawn to ensure everyone's vote means something. It is unacceptable to have a population that regularly votes very close to evenly divided and yet have legislative representation that is heavily skewed toward representation by only one party.
2671		Aug 9 2017 7:26PM	Mr. Mark Peters, PA-C	We are the only country that has free elections in the world where those elected draw the maps for voting districts. The courts have made it clear there are significant problems with map drawing in NC. It's time we set up a system like where the voters come first, and enact legislation, preferably setting up a redistricting commission which has authority to draw the maps for both state and US voting, as has been done in AZ and CA, and deemed constitutional (ie., if you don't do it, we will!)
2672		Aug 9 2017 7:26PM	Mr. George Phillips	Thank you for your attention. As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. Gerrymandering has resulted in a situation where this state has moved backwards. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2673		Aug 9 2017 7:29PM	Ms. Sandra Resner	just do sensible non-partisan redistricting, end the tit for tat cycle.
2674		Aug 9 2017 7:30PM	Dr. Stefani Engelstein	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.

2675		Aug 9 2017 7:30PM	Mr. Jamrs Jenkins	Please stop the gerrymandering in NC once and for all. It'S obviously now out of control more than anytime in history. It'S time to fix it right for NC voters.
2676		Aug 9 2017 7:30PM	Ms. Jean Sibbers	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2677		Aug 9 2017 7:32PM	Ms. Lisa Peavy	I am a new resident of North Carolina, and I am outraged about the obvious gerrymandering in this state. The redistricting must be fair and open, and prevent racial and partisan gerrymandering. We must have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us elect the representatives we want
2678		Aug 9 2017 7:33PM	Ms. Mary Rand	For heaven's sake stop trying to cheat your way to be elected. This is what gives our representatives such a poor reputation.
2679		Aug 9 2017 7:34PM	Dr. Jill Slee	As a resident of North Carolina, the criteria for redistricting should be an independent and transparent process guaranteeing elections that are fair and open, and prevent racial and partisan gerrymandering. A non-partisan group, not the legislators currently in power, should use research-based peer-reviewed processes to draw voting districts. The public deserves to have our NC legislative maps drawn in a nonpartisan way that guarantees everyone - republicans, democrats, independents, and non-affiliated voters are equally and fairly represented so the public can fairly choose our representatives. We all know the harmful impact that partisan and racial gerrymandering has had in our state. It's deprived North Carolinians of our right to pick our representatives and instead lets politicians pick and choose their voters. In addition, voting should be an easy and unobstructed process. Our voting data should remain private, and kept here in NC, - not shared with Washington or other groups as data-hacking and voter suppression could become a significant problem.
2680		Aug 9 2017 7:36PM	Mr. Ronald Godfrey	As a lifetime resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee an election process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. End the crazy looking district mans now!
2681		Aug 9 2017 7:37PM	Ms. Henrietta Jenrette	It is unAmerican to rig our elections. Illegal too. Gerrymandering tells voters that you have no convincing arguments and put winning over loyalty to our country.
2682		Aug 9 2017 7:39PM	Mr. Larry Martin	Gerrymandering is as unAmerican as it gets. You people need to have the guts to let democracy work like it's supposed to and quit trying to become our rulers. STOP THE GERRYMANDERING NOW!
2683		Aug 9 2017 7:40PM	Ms. Nancy Elkins	No one can be proud of gerrymandering. Please try to formulate the districts in the correct manner this time.
2684		Aug 9 2017 7:43PM	Mr. Thomas Paugh	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2685		Aug 9 2017 7:43PM	Janice Sullivan	We do not need Gerrymandering in North Carolina. I want to support those legislators who are not in favor of Gerrymandering.
2686		Aug 9 2017 7:44PM	Mrs. Patricia Harms	Americans believe in fair play. A political party that consistently works for unfair advantages will eventually lose out. Let's have fair redistricting.
2687		Aug 9 2017 7:44PM	Mr. Chas Griffin	Be fair!
2688		Aug 9 2017 7:48PM	Mrs. Heather Payne	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2689		Aug 9 2017 7:52PM	Dr. Williamk Yeager	Stop playing games with districts. We need an independent, non-partisan commission to define new districts for the NC legislature and judiciary.
2690		Aug 9 2017 7:53PM	Dr. Paul Brinich	I am sick to death of the fights over re-districting. I feel disenfranchised by the current districts; my vote counts less than many others here in North Carolina as I've been squeezed into a district that is "safe" for Democratic candidates. Gerrymandering corrupts the political process and leaves ordinary citizens feeling as though their votes don't really count. Is that what we want? My answer is "NO!" but the NC legislature's leadership -- whether Democratic or Republican -- has repeatedly tailored the districts so that my vote has no impact. I am sick and tired of this. We need a non-partisan process for the creation of our electoral districts. Please create one.
2691		Aug 9 2017 7:54PM	Mr. Edward Van Arsdale	We deserve that redistricting be fair and responsible not favoring any one party. We have the right to select those who are to represent us.
2692		Aug 9 2017 7:54PM	Mr. Allen Grayson	Gerrymandering was,is and always will be unethical. It's just something those in power that want to stay in power use to obtain their goal.
2693		Aug 9 2017 7:55PM	Mr. Miles Varner	Be fair. Be honest. Be non-partisan.

2694		Aug 9 2017 7:56PM	Susan Dodder	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2695		Aug 9 2017 7:56PM	Ms. Roberta Lombardozzi	Uphold the courts decision and end gerrymandering now. Thank you
2696		Aug 9 2017 7:57PM	Dr. Edna Beeman	It's time for fair elections, without gerrymandering. Let the districts be drawn by nonpartisan people, and let the voters truly decide who they want to represent them. How can you call it a true democracy, when a few biased people determine the outcome of elections before they even happen? If a candidate can't win in a fair election, they don't deserve to win. Let's give democracy a chance for a change.
2697		Aug 9 2017 7:59PM	Dr. jamo smith	Stop the Gerrymandering
2698		Aug 9 2017 8:00PM	Mrs. Sally Thomas	As a citizen and a Christian, I believe very strongly in the principles of equity and fairness. It seems to me that gerrymandering effectively undercuts these two values and provides opportunities for the powerful to run roughshod over ordinary citizens. If we have a conscience at all, we should be voting against gerrymandering and seeking new leaders who hide behind it to provides themselves with more "power over "
2699		Aug 9 2017 8:01PM	Ms. Colette Froneberger	North Carolina WHY???
2700		Aug 9 2017 8:01PM	Ms. Margaret Anderson	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2701		Aug 9 2017 8:06PM	Dr. Nicholas DeVito	An independent, nonpartisan commission for legislative redistricting is necessary to ensure proper representation and democracy itself.
2702		Aug 9 2017 8:07PM	William McElveen	Dear Legislature, Please enact fair and equally balanced redistricting!
2703		Aug 9 2017 8:09PM	Mr. Michael Lewandowski	NO to gerrymandering
2704		Aug 9 2017 8:09PM	Mr. Neil Nichols ii	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. We need to put democracy back in the hands of the people!
2705		Aug 9 2017 8:10PM	Johnny Poole	Stop the gerrymandering
2706		Aug 9 2017 8:11PM	Ms. cindy Vickery	NO! It should be totally illegal for any party to Gerrymander the districts ! We've had it! NO!
2707		Aug 9 2017 8:12PM	Mr. Lance Ashdown	In the last election cycle, the GOP received roughly 50% of the popular vote, but holds 100% of legislative power. This extreme form of gerrymandering is anti-democratic, resulting in a ruling power with no incentive to represent the state as a whole. And based on what I've seen in practice, the current party leaders have absolutely no ethics: they simply want power by any means available. My opinion is that neither party can be trusted to draw fair maps, so let the courts or a court-appointed commission do it. If the legislature must do it, then it should be held accountable using the efficiency gap or an alternative statistical tool.
2708		Aug 9 2017 8:13PM	Ms. cindy Vickery	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2709		Aug 9 2017 8:14PM	Ms. Kay Pratt	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2710		Aug 9 2017 8:16PM	Mr. Dougmals Martin	Please don't redistrict areas so that voting becomes unfair to any group.
2711		Aug 9 2017 8:16PM	Mrs. Sarah McGiverin	Please draw districts that make geographic sense - no more partisan gerrymandering - no more drawing lines squiggly lines selectively removing politicians from the districts they've been representing - no more long skinny snaking "safe districts" so that nobody's vote ever counts because we all know who is going to win. Honestly - the best thing would be for a non-partisan appointed commission to be doing this. Until we have an end to gerrymandering, we don't really have democracy in this state.

2712		Aug 9 2017 8:20PM	Dr. Juanita Bowni	<p>I'm from Yancey County and as an Independent I feel it is crucial to create a process that does not favor one party over the other and that has an opportunity for everyone to be fairly represented. PLEASE support a non-partisan re-districting process that can establish an honorable way to develop our legislative maps. STOP politically motivated district maps (on either side), by having an impartial commission of some kind to draw fair boundaries for our citizens.</p> <p>We deserve that as residents of our beautiful state which has received so much bad publicity recently, including around the gerrymandering issue.</p> <p>Sincerely, Juanita Brown</p>
2713		Aug 9 2017 8:20PM	Mrs. Carol Young	Is it too much to ask for fairness instead of shenanigans? Give all the people of North Carolina a fair shake. Everyone has a stake in our state's future.
2714		Aug 9 2017 8:20PM	Mr. Simmons (Bill) Isler	Is the next redistricting performance of the General Assembly to repeat the past--intentional--error of shutting the public out of providing informed feedback? It certainly seems intent on keeping Democratic legislators shut out of the process.
2715		Aug 9 2017 8:22PM	Barbara Colson	All residents of NC deserve to elect representatives that are free from partisan gerrymandering. They work for us. No seats should be safe. Please draw the legislative maps in a fair and non partisan way. We demand this.
2716		Aug 9 2017 8:25PM	Dr. Amy Marschall	For good government, end racial and political gerrymandering. Both parties are guilty of political gerrymandering in the past, and no one knows who will benefit after 2020 if it continues, so the time is now. Polarization is a huge problem for our state and country; ending gerrymandering is an important step we can take to restore balance and good sense.
2717		Aug 9 2017 8:26PM	Mr. Clifton Matthews	We must have fair, objective legislative Districting.
2718		Aug 9 2017 8:28PM	Marcy Ray	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2719		Aug 9 2017 8:28PM	Dr. Brenda Holbert	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2720		Aug 9 2017 8:30PM	Mr. James Davidson	We should have fair districts based on some scientific metric, not a piece of a game that people can use to cheat. I don't want the other side cheating, and I don't want my side cheating. I want things to be fair and rational--THAT is what makes this country the best in the world, not who can bend the rules.
2721		Aug 9 2017 8:31PM	Dr. Lane Tracy	Our form of government requires that elections be fair and representative of the beliefs of our citizens. Drawing voting districts that purposefully distort the outcomes of voting are evil and un-American.
2722		Aug 9 2017 8:32PM	Ms. Donna Durfee	We must create districts that offer equal opportunities for each party to win. Stop gerrymandering
2723		Aug 9 2017 8:34PM	Mrs. Theresa Sharpe	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2724		Aug 9 2017 8:34PM	Mr. Harry Cronson	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2725		Aug 9 2017 8:35PM	Ms. Carolyn Guckert	It's way past time to make this a fair process. Legislators (from either party) should not be drawing these maps. Please set up an independent redistricting commission to make the process equitable. I want competitive races in all districts. YOU have removed my right to choose who represents me. Please, please make it fair.
2726		Aug 9 2017 8:35PM	Ms. Virginia Lentz	Stop manipulating the data - create fair and balanced districts for all elections. A bi partisan solution is needed not one for each of the parties. Remember there are many independents in the state now.
2727		Aug 9 2017 8:38PM	Mr. Glen Hanket	One person, one vote. That's what the Constitution says. But gerrymandering overrides that basic right! We need to have districts that are fair, and are NOT skewed by racial or partisan concerns. We MUST have fair districts if our government is to function, and not be split between extreme factions.
2728		Aug 9 2017 8:43PM	Mr. Tom Byers	Please support legislation to move North Carolina to a non-partisan commission to do re-districting. Partisan re-districting by the majority party -- whoever it may happen to be -- subverts democracy itself. When citizens observe the partisan process in operation, they become cynical and skeptical about the fairness of the whole governing process. It will be to the everlasting credit, in history, of those who rise above partisanship and support a change in the system.
2729		Aug 9 2017 8:44PM	Mrs. Kathleen Spalding	This gerrymandering is only turning voters against you. Why don't you try winning on your own merits?

2730		Aug 9 2017 8:46PM	Ms. Laurie Cone	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. And NOT elected officials choosing their voters. Please do it in a way that will seem fair to anyone who looks at it, remembering that your constituents want a real democracy where each vote counts. Thank you!
2731		Aug 9 2017 8:47PM	Mrs. Linda Voelker	I think we need an impartial commission to draw district lines so that all candidates can compete in fair elections and one party does not assert their power through gerrymandering to their favor. I realize that this probably happened in the past as well. Going forward, let us have districts that do not intentionally favor one party over another.
2732		Aug 9 2017 8:49PM	Mr. Robert McGee	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. It makes no sense that we have more democrats voting than republicans yet 10 of 12 seats are held by republicans. Lets start representing the people and not just the party.
2733		Aug 9 2017 8:56PM	Ms. Matilda Phillips	The citizens of North Carolina deserve to have district lines drawn to reflect the demographics of designated areas. They should be drawn fairly and with consideration for the one to be elected from said district will be able to serve as easily as possible. Well defined districts would seem to me to work best without squeezing all of one demographic into a single district. My two cents. Matilda Phillips
2734		Aug 9 2017 8:56PM	Ms. Darlene Barger	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2735		Aug 9 2017 8:57PM	Lawrence Heyl	As a North Carolina resident, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open and one that prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2736		Aug 9 2017 8:57PM	Mr. Duane Moody	It is time to put a end to drawing stupid lines to stop the voice of the people from being heard. I'm retired US Army and I raised my hand over 5 times to defend the Constitution of the United States against ALL enemies both foreign and domestic. What we have here is an unconstitutional act that needs to be fixed!!!
2737		Aug 9 2017 9:02PM	Mr. Robert Hunt	Stop the gerrymandering. It's un-democratic, even un-Republican! North Carolinians deserve fair representation for all.
2738		Aug 9 2017 9:03PM	Kalith Muhammad	Without a fair voting system there can't be a fair government. When this occurs, citizens begin to wonder how they were tricked into this situation. If my vote can't be treated fairly or if I can't be treated fairly then, I can't see myself giving taxes or any support to such an entity!!!! We just aren't playing anymore games nor, are we taking anymore crap. I hope I wasn't being too direct though, Trump, is better @ this than I
2739		Aug 9 2017 9:05PM	Ms. jacqueline knable	make it fair for once!
2740		Aug 9 2017 9:08PM	Elizabeth Frost	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. We all know the harmful impact that partisan and racial gerrymandering has had in our state. It's deprived us of our right to pick our representatives and instead lets politicians pick and choose their voters. You, as representatives of your constituents, need to know that the public supports a redistricting process that doesn't allow our legislative maps to be drawn along political lines and purposefully divides communities of color to weaken their political power. We cannot let you, the redistricting committee, ignore the opinion of the majority of North Carolinians anymore.
2741		Aug 9 2017 9:10PM	Mr. Robert Lamb	The voting districts should be drawn using population distribution data ONLY. A voter's party affiliation, race, religion, sex, voting record, etc. should have NO relevance because the right to vote is not contingent on any of those characteristics.
2742		Aug 9 2017 9:12PM	Ms. Brenda Starr	It is important to me that any redistricting maps are done fairly, impartially. We, the people of North Carolina, deserve fair representation. fairly elected.
2743		Aug 9 2017 9:18PM	Mr. Stephen Boletchek	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.

2744		Aug 9 2017 9:18PM	Dr. Mark Walters	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2745		Aug 9 2017 9:18PM	Mr. Gene Hanson	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. Please end gerrymandering once and for all
2746		Aug 9 2017 9:20PM	Dr. Douglas Sherrow	It is both morally and legally correct to have an equal voice in all districts. Our votes must not be skewed to accommodate anyone or a party! We have become a national disgrace with our petty, party crap. I am embarrassed.
2747		Aug 9 2017 9:23PM	Ms. Susan Allen	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. Thank you for putting fairness first and doing the right thing by all voters.
2748		Aug 9 2017 9:27PM	Mrs. Brenda Robinson	Fair and unbiased redistricting is imperative in NC. Everyone deserves a fair and equal chance to vote for the representatives of their choice. Let's make NC a state where equal representation happens.
2749		Aug 9 2017 9:29PM	Mr. David Johnson	Most NC citizens believe it is important that their vote counts and will express their choice for representation without the fear of gerrymandered results. It is time NC become the leader in fair and honest elections that represent the choices of its citizens not the legislature.
2750		Aug 9 2017 9:33PM	Mr. Steve Saxon	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. Stop Screwing around with our state!!!
2751		Aug 9 2017 9:33PM	Ms. Wendy Stevens	I'm tired of both parties dividing up this state for their own benefit. I want to see true elections, without anyone of them non-contested.
2752		Aug 9 2017 9:34PM	Mrs. Julie Kuss	STOP GERIMANDERING DISTRICTS LET THE CARDS FALL WHERE THEY MAY...
2753		Aug 9 2017 9:35PM	Ms. Karen Kaser-Odor	I'm a NC resident who votes and I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a fair and open process that prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. NC citizens deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2754		Aug 9 2017 9:36PM	Ms. Paula Wolf	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. The GOP vise grip on the majority was unconstitutional. Stop playing games.
2755		Aug 9 2017 9:37PM	Dr. Barbara Clawson	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. I am tired of this being a partisan process and want it to become a non-partisan process.
2756		Aug 9 2017 9:41PM	Mrs. Marilyn Ridgeway	I plead with the General Assembly to allow our voting districts to be drawn by a non partisan redistricting committee as suggested in HR 200 or Sb 209. It is time that voters have faith in the voting process and that voting is not rigged either for or against them.
2757		Aug 9 2017 9:44PM	Mr. Rob Axtell	End gerrymandering. People deserve to pick their leaders, not have you pick them and create non-competitive districts. NC is a moderate state - reflect that.
2758		Aug 9 2017 9:44PM	Mrs. Olivia Morris	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2759		Aug 9 2017 9:46PM	Mrs. Nan Johnson	<p>I am a long-time resident of North Carolina. I demand and deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. When we first moved to NC it was widely considered to be the most progressive state in the South and we were proud of that. It is no longer true and our neighbors and the whole country know it.</p> <p>We all know the harmful impact that partisan and racial gerrymandering has had in our state. It's deprived us of our right to pick our representatives and instead lets politicians pick and choose their voters. We have lost jobs and crucial revenue because of our diminished reputation. We cannot let the redistricting committee ignore the opinion of the majority of North Carolinians</p>
2760		Aug 9 2017 9:47PM	Richard Jackson	Fair districts enable fair votes

2761		Aug 9 2017 9:48PM	Mrs. Cama Merritt	Give us fair districts. The representation of the people in our democracy is too precious to continue to make a mockery of it by gerrymandering the districts.
2762		Aug 9 2017 9:49PM	Mr. Joseph Sandoval	Let's do fair, non-partisan re-districting. Winner take all politics is destroying our state.
2763		Aug 9 2017 9:51PM	Mr. Steve Stallings	I have lived in N.C. most of my life, I was born here and the past is the past. It's time for fair play in our state. The old line of they did it first no longer gives any group the right to keep doing it the wrong way. The voters should be able to choose their representatives instead of the reps choosing their voters. The one sided, minority rules, does not work. Both parties should be able to be held accountable by the voters. It's time for all districts to be fairly represented by someone from that district who understands their constituents needs and values. Districts with no common borders between counties should not happen ever again. WE THE PEOPLE should be able to vote for those who are our neighbors and know their districts without traveling thru counties they do not represent. I am sick of people voting against the views and wishes of the majority of the citizens of North Carolina. Our people should be heard by our politicians and do the work of the citizens of our state. Outside money, outside views, outside groups and Washington, D.C. should not be able to control our General Assembly if our citizens do not agree with those ideas. Fair districts and their representatives owe the citizens of N.C. their allegiance instead of to people from other states or other political groups. North Carolina has been a leader thru the years and it's time we stopped being led by outsiders who are causing us to fail to lead. The Redistricting should be fair to all parties and all citizens of this Great State of North Carolina.
2764		Aug 9 2017 9:53PM	Mrs. Eileen Morgan	As a resident and voter in North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. Voting is a privilege and a responsibility of every citizen in a democracy. Legislative maps need to be drawn in such a way that the voters are able to choose the representatives that they want, not that the candidate of any one party chooses who will vote for him or her. (Ultimately I believe an independent commission is the best way to ensure that fair districts are drawn.)
2765		Aug 9 2017 9:54PM	Dr. Donald Stanat	I support democracy in its rational forms. People should be encouraged (perhaps required) to vote, and the votes should be tallied in a form that is transparent and based on democratic principles. Gerrymandering does not satisfy these criteria. Redistricting should be done so that the dreadful beast does not arise.
2766		Aug 9 2017 9:54PM	Tamara Lewis	We have a court decision showing that our districts have been out of compliance. It's time for an immediate remedy. I think the best gesture to all parties would be to engage a non-partisan committee to draw up the new districts.
2767		Aug 9 2017 9:55PM	Mrs. Sharron Parker	Please, please, please let NC lead the way to being truly democratic in redistricting so that all voters' choices count equally.
2768		Aug 9 2017 9:56PM	Joanne Heckel	Please remove gerrymandering and divide our districts fairly.
2769		Aug 9 2017 9:59PM	Kate Torrey	I want fair districts, without "packing" one party's voters or diluting the votes of particular ethnic or racial groups to advance partisan or ideological agendas. In short, we need *impartially* drawn districts that are created without any particular outcome in mind. This won't take long, if done in a truly impartial and unbiased manner.
2770		Aug 9 2017 10:00PM	Mr. Bryson Palmer	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. I support an independent, non-partisan council or committee, outside of the state house and senate that can work within these boundaries to draw up fair districts that result in fair elections. Getting this job done is not a hard process, but ensuring both parties work within the law may prove to be difficult.
2771		Aug 9 2017 10:00PM	Mr. William Holcomb	OUR FAMILY WANTS THE REDISTRICTING DONE BY AN UNBIASED, BIPARTISAN, ETHICAL COMMISSION.
2772		Aug 9 2017 10:02PM	Ms. Erica Burns	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2773		Aug 9 2017 10:03PM	Ms. Candice Davies	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2774		Aug 9 2017 10:09PM	Ms. C. Nettles	Gerrymandering renders the ideal of 'one person, one vote' invalid. Return your state to the constitutional ideal.

2775		Aug 9 2017 10:11PM	Dr. Amy Musser	<p>As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.</p> <p>We all know the harmful impact that partisan and racial gerrymandering has had in our state. It’s deprived us of our right to pick our representatives and instead lets politicians pick and choose their voters.</p> <p>You, as representatives of your constituents, need to know that the public supports a redistricting process that doesn’t allow our legislative maps to be drawn along political lines and purposefully divides communities of color to weaken their political power.</p> <p>We cannot let you, the redistricting committee, ignore the opinion of the majority of North Carolinians anymore.</p>
2776		Aug 9 2017 10:11PM	Mr. Bobby Padgett	<p>As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want rather than the representatives choosing their voters</p>
2777		Aug 9 2017 10:13PM	Karen Achor	<p>I’m a resident of North Carolina seeking redistricting that is fair and open and prevents gerrymandering, whether racial or partisan .</p> <p>To preserve our rights and freedoms in this great state, our legislative maps must be drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented. That way lets us choose the representatives we want.</p> <p>We need to avoid gerrymandering because it deprives voters of our right to pick our representatives. Rather than let politicians pick and choose their voters, we want to maintain a democratic system in our state — and in our republic, the United States — for us and for our descendants.</p>
2778		Aug 9 2017 10:16PM	Mr. David Ambaras	<p>As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.</p>
2779		Aug 9 2017 10:21PM	Mrs. Evelyn Morehead	<p>It's time to be fair to the citizens. Stop the gerrymandering. Now. Do what is right. Stop working only to make yourselves rich and powerful.</p>
2780		Aug 9 2017 10:22PM	Mr. William Phillips	<p>The criteria for redistricting must guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. Our legislative maps must be drawn in a way that guarantees everyone equal and fair representation and lets us choose the representatives we want.</p>
2781		Aug 9 2017 10:25PM	Mr. Daniel Mulligan	<p>As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.</p>
2782		Aug 9 2017 10:25PM	Mr. Jason Weil	<p>As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.</p> <p>We all know the harmful impact that partisan and racial gerrymandering has had in our state. It’s deprived us of our right to pick our representatives and instead lets politicians pick and choose their voters.</p> <p>You, as representatives of your constituents, need to know that the public supports a redistricting process that doesn’t allow our legislative maps to be drawn along political lines and purposefully divides communities of color to weaken their political power.</p> <p>We cannot let you, the redistricting committee, ignore the opinion of the majority of North Carolinians anymore."</p>
2783		Aug 9 2017 10:27PM	Mrs. Jane Oakley	<p>This gerrymandering must stop.</p>
2784		Aug 9 2017 10:27PM	Mrs. Hattie Hair	<p>We demand that you draw the lines fairly so that we have true represent Ives in congress</p>
2785		Aug 9 2017 10:40PM	Mr. John Wiles	<p>As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.</p>

2786		Aug 9 2017 10:47PM	Ms. Sandra Ricci	We have been blessed and I am so thankful to live in a country that has a participatory government of, by and for the people with separation of powers that work together but also provide a checks and balance. We must have a fair, inclusive and non-partisan districting process that results in people exercising their right to vote. Please do the right thing. Thank you for taking my comment.
2787		Aug 9 2017 10:49PM	Mrs. Judith Barton	We need districts which have been properly drawn, not gerrymandered, so the people decide who will represent them, not the ones who drew up the districts.
2788		Aug 9 2017 10:50PM	Mr. Quando Gerst	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2789		Aug 9 2017 10:51PM	Mr. Charles Wickline	You moved me from district 3 to district 7. That made my Rep. someone that I did not vote for. That is wrong.
2790		Aug 9 2017 10:54PM	Mr. Gregg Johnson	I believe that voting districts should not be manipulated to gain racial or political advantage.
2791		Aug 9 2017 11:06PM	Mr. James & April Thompson	The intent of redistricting is to disenfranchise minority voters. In a true democratic republic the right for EVERYONE to participate in the electoral process is non-negotiable, and ANY attempts to undermine this right are viewed as Un-American.
2792		Aug 9 2017 11:09PM	Ms. Arleen Fields	Hello! Please ensure that when North Carolina is redistricted that the districts fairly reflect the residents of that area and do not once again fall along the lines of partisan politics. I am on the far eastern edge of Rep. Richard Hudson's district. Last fall when I was searching to find the name of my representative I kept thinking that I had the wrong guy since I kept coming up with references to Concord and Charlotte, and nothing about my town of Fayetteville. But, yup - the district splatters across half the state, right across Republican strongholds. Please don't let this happen to me again! Thank you for your consideration and commitment to fairness.
2793		Aug 9 2017 11:14PM	Mrs. Sharon OKelley	We need to draw district lines that will benefit all the people of NC and make voting accessible for all.
2794		Aug 9 2017 11:17PM	Jeffery and Pamela Mastin	We expect you as our elected representatives to develop fair voting districts so that every NC citizens vote counts. If you do not, we will encourage the courts to step in and do so on our behalf. Please do the right thing by all! We're counting on you to do so!
2795		Aug 9 2017 11:18PM	Mr. Lynn Bernhardt	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2796		Aug 9 2017 11:21PM	Ms. Kathryn Pedersen	I urge you have fair and nonpartisan maps drawn as soon as possible. I believe a nonpartisan commission should be established immediately for this task.
2797		Aug 9 2017 11:26PM	Mrs. Teresa Barefoot	We all know that our district maps look ludicrous. Districts should be drawn with sensible demarcation, not this grand reach to squiggle around picking up a few voters here and a few down yonder. Individually our votes should be important, but so should the outlines of our districts be important. Time to quit playing these political games and draw districts as you should...then courts won't catch you in your jiggaw nuzzle lies!
2798		Aug 9 2017 11:29PM	Don Shafer	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial as well as partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2799		Aug 9 2017 11:32PM	Mr. Daniel Burns	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. We all know the harmful impact that partisan and racial gerrymandering has had in our state. It's deprived us of our right to pick our representatives and instead lets politicians pick and choose their voters
2800		Aug 9 2017 11:55PM	Ms. Carroll Harris	Partisan or racial gerrymandering should not be allowed to happen in the USA! It makes us less of a fair country!
2801		Aug 10 2017 12:00AM	Ms. Pamela Corbett	Stop partisan and lopsided drawing of districts. Use computer-generated algorithms to determine them. Thank you. Pamela
2802		Aug 10 2017 12:09AM	Ms. Vivian Barro	gerrymandering disenfranchises citizens and it needs to stop.
2803		Aug 10 2017 12:15AM	Mrs. Elaine Wood	The Gerrymandering of NC is shameful. Ethnic manipulation is one of the most detestable things and unconstitutional efforts ever done that affects our political process. It is not Fair and Not Right.
2804		Aug 10 2017 12:39AM	Dr. Robert Reeber	With current districts declared illegal I as a citizen cannot consider any laws and budgets passed by the current legislature to be truly representative of the people's will and would stand behind a court that would make them null and void. We need fair non-partisan districts that attract talented independents and members of all parties as candidates to do the people's work

2805		Aug 10 2017 12:53AM	Mr. Ben Mullen	<p>As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.</p> <p>The most proportionate way to do that is with computer-generated district maps. It is also the fastest, cheapest, and mathematically precise. The whole process could be finished in a day's time (actually, it probably would take under an hour).</p> <p>Let's get it done, and get on to correcting more problems in North Carolina that stand in the way of better lives for our citizenry-at-large!</p>
2806		Aug 10 2017 12:53AM	Mr. ken Leary	My opinion is that NC's politicians are a corrupt group who would spray pig feces in your face if it made them a buck or got them a vote. Pig shit politicians. Why would anyone expect them to govern fairly?
2807		Aug 10 2017 12:57AM	Mr. Leonard Lopatin	<p>Gerrymandering is cheating, plain and simple.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Leonard E. Lopatin, Asheville, NC</p>
2808		Aug 10 2017 1:26AM	Ms. JANE WATSON	Only fair and impartial map-drawing using criteria that results in configurations comporting with the realization of "one-man-one-vote" is acceptable and truly constitutional. All who hold party loyalty over the state's and country's rules of law shall go down in the annals of history as SHAMEFUL, DISGRACEFUL AND UNPATRIOTIC!! JW
2809		Aug 10 2017 1:48AM	Ms. Rachel Campbell	It is time to have free elections here in the state with districts drawn free of either political party. This would be real freedom.
2810		Aug 10 2017 1:50AM	Ms. Demetra Bakas	Thank you. I believe in "do unto others as you would have them do unto you." Specifically in this case I am against gerrymandering. If you don't want your political opponent stacking the deck in their favor, then don't you do it either. Seriously, this gerrymandering weapons each citizen's vote independent of party because it is manipulative and cheating. Both parties have done it. Please stop it now. Let's have fair elections
2811		Aug 10 2017 2:24AM	Mr. Robert Howland	We need fair election districts that represent the true popular vote. Let's end gerrymandering now.
2812		Aug 10 2017 2:48AM	Ms. Lisa Yarger	It seems like something we all could agree on: the criteria for redistricting need to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We, the people of North Carolina, deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2813		Aug 10 2017 3:12AM	Mr. Michael McGowan	Redistricting sould be done on a non-partisan basis as well as not being racist.
2814		Aug 10 2017 3:56AM	Mrs. Martha Spencer	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. In the long run, this will benefit both Democrats AND Republicans!
2815		Aug 10 2017 4:00AM	Mr. William Webb	Please guarantee that the criteria for redistricting is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2816		Aug 10 2017 4:57AM	Mr. john baker	partisian gerrymanding is antidemocratic. the citizens of north Carolina require a redistricting plan that is fair and unbiased and strictly avoids party intervention.
2817		Aug 10 2017 5:31AM	Mrs. Claudia Thuring	The gerrymandering must stop. We need an independent non partisan committee to redraw the maps.
2818		Aug 10 2017 5:45AM	rex burford	Do what the federal courts ordered or else they will have everybody running statewide and the democrats will for sure kick all of you out of office. You could still have an election that stands for all new offices just for the yearw 2018. i.e. double elections.
2819		Aug 10 2017 5:55AM	Mr. Ralph Shannon	Districts need to represent the constituency of the State. Candidates ought to compete on the stregnth of their stance on issues, not by selecting specific voter pools. The obvious partisan corruption evidenced by the rejected mapping among other actions by the GOP shows contempt for our democracy.
2820		Aug 10 2017 6:04AM	Ms. Terese Armstrong	<p>As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.</p> <p>If you have to use voter suppression to win, maybe your message does not represent the people of NC. Please stop trying to undermine the very fabric of democracy and start acting like Americans.</p> <p>Thank you, Terese Armstrong</p>

2821		Aug 10 2017 6:10AM	Mr. Wilson Patterson	<p>The practice of redistricting has long been considered "legal", but has never been ethical, or in the best interest of the general public. It has been used as a political football...enabling the party in possession to score political points. Gerrymandering has further divided our country by red lines, and made North Carolina a poster child for duplicity and misrepresentation.</p> <p>There is no practical way to utilize this bargaining chip for the good of all citizens. The practice should be considered illegal, even for political gain. If North Carolina's legislators dare to represent the will of all its citizens, the use of gerrymandering would cease immediately.</p>
2822		Aug 10 2017 6:13AM	Ms. sharon vinciguerra	<p>As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. We all know the harmful impact that partisan and racial gerrymandering has had in our state. It's deprived us of our right to pick our representatives and instead lets politicians pick and choose their voters.</p>
2823		Aug 10 2017 6:19AM	Mr. Boone Guyton	<p>Redistricting needs to happen in a non political way that does not use racial or political criteria. We need fair and open elections that are not rigged by politicians for their benefit but rather for a stronger democracy.</p> <p>You, as representatives of your constituents, need to know that the public supports a redistricting process that doesn't allow our legislative maps to be drawn along political lines and purposefully divides communities of color to weaken their political power.</p>
2824		Aug 10 2017 6:19AM	Mr. Stanley Hix	<p>We all know the harmful impact that partisan and racial gerrymandering has had in our state. It's deprived us of our right to pick our representatives and instead lets politicians pick and choose their voters.</p> <p>As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.</p>
2825		Aug 10 2017 6:23AM	Mr. Frank Pozo	<p>On August 8th, 2017, in the same week that marked the 52nd Anniversary of the passage of the 1965 Voting Rights Act, Rev. William Barber II and the NC NAACP State Conference gathered to demand an illegal North Carolina General Assembly to cease any new legislative action until new legislative elections are held on the basis of an electoral map that complies with the constitution. I am in total support of this request. This legislature is an illegal and racist activity because of the gerrymandering of NC voting district. Cease and desist legislative activity until a fair and just redistricting and new elections. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y8czBeTPAC4</p>
2826		Aug 10 2017 6:25AM	Siera Burtrum	<p>As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.</p>
2827		Aug 10 2017 6:27AM	Mr. martin soloman	do the right thing!
2828		Aug 10 2017 6:37AM	Mr. Kenneth Ashe	<p>The voters should be able to choose their representatives, Gerrymandering allows the legislators to choose their voters. this is a** backwards.</p> <p>End gerrymandering. Gives us voting districts that don't look like snakes.</p>
2829		Aug 10 2017 6:46AM	Mrs. Stephanie Ross	<p>Please work to create districts where all citizens have a voice, regardless of party affiliation or race. Fair districts are critical to the health of democracv.</p>
2830		Aug 10 2017 6:52AM	Mrs. Patricia Rister	Respectfully request that redistricting be fair to all citizens of North Carolina.
2831		Aug 10 2017 7:07AM	Mr. Ronald Fisher	We need fair and honest representation and this will never happen until a non -political panel draws equil districs ignoring political gains or advantages.
2832		Aug 10 2017 7:10AM	Ms. Susan Pruitt	<p>As a resident of Greensboro, NC, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.</p>
2833		Aug 10 2017 7:19AM	Mr. Robert Parker	<p>Gerrymandered Districts are contrary to the public interest. This practice is Un-American and violates Law and our Principles of Democracy. End it NOW. If you want to be elected- come up with a better message than your opponent. Why not save the taxpayers of our state by not having to continually litigate these unlawful arrangements</p>
2834		Aug 10 2017 7:20AM	Dr. Denise Baker	<p>The citizens of NC deserve fair elections that do not give advantage to one race or party because of gerrymandered districts. Redistricting should follow the principles set forth by the League of Women Voters to ensure that each district is truly competitive and that every vote will count in the state. I urge the members of the General Assembly to work fairly and justly in drawing our new maps.</p>
2835		Aug 10 2017 7:24AM	Karl Bauman	Gerrymandering must be completely and permanently removed from North Carolina.

2836		Aug 10 2017 7:26AM	David Stratton	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. To me, that would mean the establishing an impartial committee that could draw maps from census data.
2837		Aug 10 2017 7:29AM	Mr. Bruce Crain	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. Just start in 1 corner of the State and draw a district as a "square" large enough to encompass the correct population. Population count should be the ONLY criteria for each district; not race or sex or PARTY affiliation. Please!
2838		Aug 10 2017 7:32AM	Ms. Linda Hansma	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2839		Aug 10 2017 7:35AM	Ms. Elena McCants	I write to ask that you redraw legislative districts to benefit us voters, rather than to ensure your job securities. We all pay taxes and all deserve fair representation at the state and national levels. My districts were drawn in a manner that negatively affected me when minorities were packed into one district as opposed to the two or three we had been in before. What was done before was shameful and has seriously damaged North Carolina's image and its prospects for attracting new businesses. Do the right thing. Redraw the districts so we're all represented fairly.
2840		Aug 10 2017 7:38AM	Mrs. Barbara Wilkus	I am a resident of North Carolina. The criteria for redistricting must guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. ALL people of NC deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees citizens are equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. Thank you for your time and consideration.
2841		Aug 10 2017 7:38AM	Dr. Leslie Talbott	I support non-partisan districting like the Iowa model. This is to the benefit of both parties who will sooner or later be the ones drawing the lines. The courts are not going to accept gerrymandered districts so we may as well go ahead and draw bipartisan, fair districts.
2842		Aug 10 2017 7:41AM	Mr. Crichton Walker	Fair and unbiased redistricting!
2843		Aug 10 2017 7:42AM	Mrs. Bella Laster	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2844		Aug 10 2017 7:43AM	Kathleen Hall	All forms of districting a safe seat in the House and Senate are the exact opposite of democratic elections. This has certainly effected our understanding and communication between political groups. Lets try doing the right thing.
2845		Aug 10 2017 7:48AM	Ms. Vicki Hallman	STOP GERRYMANDERING! DRAW DISTRICTS FAIRLY.
2846		Aug 10 2017 7:52AM	Mrs. Chrystal Hardt	I am writing to express my great desire for fair voting districts. Gerrymandering hurts everyone because it keeps people from being fairly represented. Democracy works for the benefit of all when people are given a fair chance to participate. All the people need to have a voice in the process. We can trust people to do the right thing if we give them a chance and a voice. Please allow our state to flourish by making sure the voting districts are fairly drawn without regard to party. Thank you for you time and consideration.
2847		Aug 10 2017 7:56AM	Mr. A Berger	We support OBJECTIVE (non-political) redistricting. Should be done by an unaffiliated group with zero political party involvement.
2848		Aug 10 2017 8:05AM	Mr. Adam Matar	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2849		Aug 10 2017 8:09AM	Mr. Barry Silverstein	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. Regardless of party, districts should be fair and objective
2850		Aug 10 2017 8:12AM	Mrs. Alice Hoole	END GERRYMANDERING NOW
2851		Aug 10 2017 8:16AM	Katie Glass	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. Thank you!

2852		Aug 10 2017 8:19AM	Ms. Tina Govan	<p>As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.</p> <p>The whole state is watching. The whole nation is watching. We have a right to a DEMOCRACY. REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT. The Founding Fathers would be appalled at gerrymandering. Be a patriot and let the people's votes and voices count and be equally and fairly represented. To do otherwise is shameful and against the USA. This is something we should not have to even say.</p>
2853		Aug 10 2017 8:25AM	Mr. Kenneth Gangl	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2854		Aug 10 2017 8:27AM	Mr. Jim Howe	Please stop the gerrymandering that has deprived so many of representation by giving one political party an unfair advantage. Time to end the inequity in NC political processes.
2855		Aug 10 2017 8:29AM	Alysia Tacinelli	Please end gerrymandering. It is cheating and not in line with our constitutional beliefs.
2856		Aug 10 2017 8:31AM	Mr. Charles Keeling	Gerrymandering is an insidious and immediate threat to our democracy, and yet during the past decade it has been manifested here in North Carolina in its most dangerously successful form. This is not something to be proud of or to try to excel at...it is a shameful and cynical attack on the very integrity of our entire system of voting. Gerrymandering is a classic case of party over country, and I condemn it in the strongest terms, and as a voter I demand that every necessary action be taken to draw legislative districts fairly with all due haste and deliberation.
2857		Aug 10 2017 8:34AM	Brian Bowman	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2858		Aug 10 2017 8:38AM	Ms. Kathleen Goodwin	I am writing to ask the North Carolina General Assembly to cease immediately any actions that support the gerrymandering of districts. Look what this unethical process has gotten us - Senators and Congressman who vote to take away health care from millions of Americans. A republican president who is unstable to serve the office and the denial of the right to vote to hundreds of thousands of North Carolina residents -- ! STOP now you are destroying the United States
2859		Aug 10 2017 8:39AM	Ms. Janis Tunnell	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2860		Aug 10 2017 8:42AM	Mr. James Amerault	stop voter suppression
2861		Aug 10 2017 8:44AM	Ms. Sarah Haman	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. I would prefer that the redistricting process be put to a non partial committee separate from the legislature.
2862		Aug 10 2017 8:52AM	Ms. Laura Neidich	End gerrymandering! It's time for UNBIASED redistricting. It would be great if North Carolina would lead the way and other states would follow our good example!
2863		Aug 10 2017 8:53AM	Mr. Steven Donatone	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2864		Aug 10 2017 8:54AM	Mrs. Ruth Darrow	It is time to protect our democracy. All legislative seats should be competitive
2865		Aug 10 2017 8:54AM	Mr. Larry Greene	Redistricting should be non-partisan and free from prejudice and discrimination, racial and otherwise.
2866		Aug 10 2017 8:55AM	Dr. miles moody	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.

2867		Aug 10 2017 8:55AM	George Adams	Most North Carolinians have more concerns in their lives than tax cuts for rich folks, corporate welfare, and tired old social issues. But that's not reflected in your politics because of the electoral gains you've received by your partisan redistricting. You don't reflect the common sense ideals of the majority of people that put you in office. So instead of representing our interests, your over representation has made you cold, selfish, petty, and drunk with power. Just when I think I can't be anymore ashamed to say I'm from NC, you folks always find a way to outdo yourself. I realize it's a long shot, but I hope the courts finally break the siege you've put us through. It's quite apparent you have no interest in running a fair election or finding practical solutions to the real problems we face.
2868		Aug 10 2017 8:56AM	Dr. Mary Boatwright	As a long-time, high-taxpaying resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and that prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. The districting we now have is patently unfair and discriminatory. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. An impartial map-maker seems an essential step: there are many talented geographers out there, so why go with the one who drew up the districting maps the Supreme Court has ruled unconstitutional?
2869		Aug 10 2017 9:04AM	Ms. LaVerne Smith	This has really been dragged out for much too long. Time for the legislators to get moving and stop stalling. This has been so unfair in so many ways anyone with common sense knows what has been going on. I am sure I am not the only person in North Carolina who is wondering why these people are so intent on destroying this state and are unfit for their positions. Get busy. Eventually there are going to be performance reviews. These are called elections.
2870		Aug 10 2017 9:09AM	Mary McMillan	Redistricting should be done without regard to race, ethnicity, party affiliation or any other subjective criteria It should be done so that EVERYONE's vote counts. It should be done by independent parties without an interest in the outcomes of elections. It should reflect one man one vote and be reasonably located geographically.
2871		Aug 10 2017 9:12AM	Mrs. Anne Craig	<p>The public supports a redistricting process that doesn't allow our legislative maps to be drawn along political lines and purposefully divides communities of color to weaken their political power. Nor do we support redistricting that carves out entire geographic communities like the city of Asheville, placing its population within two districts!</p> <p>I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.</p>
2872		Aug 10 2017 9:21AM	Mr. Cody Hulme	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2873		Aug 10 2017 9:22AM	Rien Zabor	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2874		Aug 10 2017 9:23AM	Ms. Patricia Burks	End gerrymandering now!
2875		Aug 10 2017 9:25AM	Mrs. Devon Burkhalter'	There is nothing fair and equal about the methods y'all are using to redraw the districts. It's one step shy of buying votes to split districts among socioeconomic or racial communities, ensuring votes swing one way or the other. I don't have the solution, but it seems that y'all don't. either. Back to the drawing board!
2876		Aug 10 2017 9:25AM	Roy Tucker	<p>I live in Southport, North Carolina and urge you to develop a plan for redistricting that precludes racial and partisan gerrymandering. Citizens of North Carolina should have legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.</p> <p>I am especially interested in establishment of a non-partisan redistricting commission. Several states have established such commissions, and based on all reports they work very well. It would be great if you could take advantage of this opportunity to create such a commission.</p>
2877		Aug 10 2017 9:26AM	Mr. Robert O'Connor	End partisan gerrymandering. We need FAIR elections not unconstitutional fake districts favoring bloated hypocrites.
2878		Aug 10 2017 9:27AM	Mr. Lonny McSherley	It is shameful that we rig elections through partisan gerrymandering. Both parties should stop. Currently it is the Republicans who are violatina our rights. Please STOP!
2879		Aug 10 2017 9:28AM	Ms. Ruth Talley	PLEASE HEAR US. As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.

2880		Aug 10 2017 9:29AM	Jason Sullivan	<p>While I applaud the efforts of the NCGA to finally get it in gear and begin the redistricting process after stalling for as long as possible, I'm disappointed that they've chosen to use the same Republican operative responsible for the current preposterous maps. There have been many studies about how much more equitable district maps can be computationally generated (one was even done locally at Duke), and the importance of independent commissions; and yet I fear we're just going to go down the same path as before, but with more careful language so that the Supreme Court doesn't give us another embarrassing drubbing.</p> <p>While prior maps have been drawn to benefit historically marginalized groups (and that's a good thing), recent history has shown that we can't do that without specious complaints of "unfairness" and a dramatic swing in a regressive direction.</p> <p>We need a truly independent commission using open and independently reviewed algorithms to generate these maps with as little favor or bias as possible.</p>
2881		Aug 10 2017 9:34AM	Nancy Wehling	I would like to see redistricting done on a non-partisan, and certainly non-racial or ethnic basis. I vote very regularly, and have time to actively participate in campaigns to press the things I think are important. Fair representation is one of them.
2882		Aug 10 2017 9:34AM	Joli Osgood	Please do the right thing and correct the gerrymandering that has brought shame to our state. Create districts that promote fairness and strengthen our democracy. Gerrymandering is one of the most critical threats to our democracy. How NC leaders choose to remedy this problem will determine how I vote in 2018 and beyond. It is not good for North Carolinians to have to rely on appellate courts to keep our leaders in check. Everyone is paying attention now like never before. I urge you to do the right thing and fix the districts that were manipulated to concentrate certain voters' power and dilute others.
2883		Aug 10 2017 9:35AM	john althiser	good luck.
2884		Aug 10 2017 9:35AM	Mr. Lewis Hawley	Gerrymandering is so callous, so cold, so ANTI-DEMOCRATIC as to be UN-AMERICAN. Only thing more heinous is your attempts at voter suppression. SHAME ON YOU ! It was Lucifer who proffered to rule in Hell rather than serve in Heaven. Looks like you've joined up for the long run !!
2885		Aug 10 2017 9:37AM	Mr. Jeffrey Pilkinton	Stop Gerrymandering now!
2886		Aug 10 2017 9:37AM	Dr. Noel Jones	Fairness in voting requires that the voting districts/precincts be re-drawn to equalize the votes of all persons in North Carolina. The extreme gerrymandering must be changed.
2887		Aug 10 2017 9:39AM	Mr. mark Kuttrus	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. I recommend using municipal, county and other established jurisdictional lines as the main basis for the new and future districts.
2888		Aug 10 2017 9:42AM	Mr. Neal Curran	Please redraw district maps that are free of partisan politics!!!
2889		Aug 10 2017 9:48AM	Dr. Laura Vanderbeck	Gerrymandering is an unfair strategy that circumvents the basic tenants of Democracy. It should not be allowed.
2890		Aug 10 2017 9:51AM	Ms. Charlisha Foster	As a proud resident of North Carolina (born and bred), I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want and that best represent us in geographical nature.
2891		Aug 10 2017 9:53AM	Mrs. Barbara Pangle	For too long the poeples voice in NC has been silenced and manipulated as ruled by the courts. It is time for districts to be redrawn fairly . This must be done in a non patrician matter before the 2018 mid tern elections. Quit draggin yourfeet and do what is right for the state not the party. The people demand it and are watching and willing to speak out against any effort to dismiss the courts ruling. Barbara Elliott Pangle
2892		Aug 10 2017 9:55AM	Dr. Lester Stowe	End partisan and racial gerrymandering NOW! Establish a nonpartisan commission to draw leqislative maps.
2893		Aug 10 2017 9:56AM	Ms. Elizabeth Krijgsman	Dear Republican legislators, You learned back in kindergarten that if you win by cheating, it doesn't count. Unfortunately, your cheating has been effective in denying many of your fellow North Carolinians a voice in elections. Please stop opposing nonpartisan gerrymandering. Try winning on your merits for a change. Thank you for your attention
2894		Aug 10 2017 9:57AM	Mrs. Ann Stowe	End partisan and racial gerrymandering NOW ! Establish a nonpartisan commission to draw legislative maps.
2895		Aug 10 2017 10:01AM	Ms. Rachel Campbell	Time to take politics out of our voting rights and have independent redistricting.
2896		Aug 10 2017 10:01AM	Dr. Frank Lorch	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.

2897		Aug 10 2017 10:04AM	Mrs. Peggy Fry	<p>I urge that the NC legislature do its job and make every effort to redraw the district maps in a way that does not lend itself to blatant racial and partisan gerrymandering.</p> <p>I am a 60-year-old Southerner. I am a proud Southerner, but what I am proud of is our civil rights movement and how it is always working to make sure every citizen has a stake in our democracy. The best way to do that is to ensure that no voter is prevented from voting and that their vote counts. I am ashamed and deeply angry that the Republican Party has chosen electoral victory over democracy by any measure they can, from voter suppression efforts, including gerrymandering, to drumming up a false emergency "voter fraud" issue to cover up these deeply unethical, and ultimately judged illegal methods to do so.</p> <p>This is not a partisan issue, at least not to me. It doesn't matter which party benefits from ensuring everyone's right to vote. Ensuring that right is the bedrock of our democracy. There is no good reason or excuse for endangering that foundation , unless we want to become something other than a democracy: maybe an autocracy, or a theocracy, or a plutocracy? Because that's where we are heading when we allow the false narrative that one side is pitted against the other side because it's all about petty partisan politics.</p> <p>I strongly urge that districts be drawn in a non-partisan, above-board, ethical manner, adhering only to accurately making districts congruent and logically drawn to most accurately reflect the true demographics of that district. Every Republican who is a true patriot should want the same thing. To win, but win fairly, and with no suppression of anyone's constituional right to vote.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
2898		Aug 10 2017 10:13AM	Ms. june linhart	We need fair elections with equal non-party based criteria. A non-party based commission is necessary for this task.
2899		Aug 10 2017 10:14AM	Ms. Shayne Klein	As a long-time resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2900		Aug 10 2017 10:21AM	Ms. LOUISE KOSLOFSKY	Please end gerrymandering!
2901		Aug 10 2017 10:23AM	Ms. anne whitefield	Are we in North Carolina part of a democracy? I submit that we have been hacked by politicians sponsored by corporations. If we have fair representation through compact districts there is a chance citizens can regain fair influence in government.
2902		Aug 10 2017 10:26AM	Ms. Cynthia Schaub	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2903		Aug 10 2017 10:26AM	Mr. martin feinstein	I urge you to create districts that provide a voice to all of our citizens as is intended in our constitution. Healthy debate and democratic outcomes depend upon vigorous debate of the issues and voter choice. Predetermined electoral outcomes stifle our democracy. No individual issue is more important than our political heritage.
2904		Aug 10 2017 10:26AM	Mrs. Barbara Gregg	Please draw fair maps free of racial and partisan gerrymandering.
2905		Aug 10 2017 10:28AM	Ms. Mary White	To the N.C. Legislators - We as N.C. citizens must urge that you immediately REFRAIN from making North Carolina the Top Bastion of Corruption in the USA these days. The majority of the representatives of the N.C. Legislature of the Party in Power are willing to accept any tawdry maneuvering that rends their will from what is just and proper regardless of any well-approved standards of conduct and action that have been heretofore set forth. The N.C. Congress has now shown themselves to become a sleezy bunch of criminals without any due reason and devoid of any proper judicial process. This goes for how they have stripped the current Governor from the very same rights, staffing policies, and funding resources that were made available for his predecessor of their own party and ilk, without tampering by the opposing party. Now they in their same misguided, controversial, and unprincipled, surly fashion are attempting to continue to strip reason and right from the stricture in the re-drawing of the voting lines throughout the state which give unfair advantage to their party based on race. This embarrassing, sordid maneuvering brings gross shame to our state and each and every one of its citizens who care about integrity. STOP THIS VICIOUS MISBEHAVIOR AT ONE, we IMPLORE YOU!
2906		Aug 10 2017 10:28AM	Ms. Paula Pierce	<p>Don't be afraid to have a non-partisan professional group draft the new redistricting plan. We need to regain our status as a great state for everyone!!</p> <p>As citizens of NC we need a legislative slate that fairly represents us, not a one sided gerrymandered, unopposed option.</p>
2907		Aug 10 2017 10:32AM	Mrs. Gennelle Wilson	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.

2908		Aug 10 2017 10:33AM	Mrs. Susan Henning	Voting is supposed to represent the will of the people. Gerrymandering districts distorts reality. It is a trick to manipulate the will of the people. It is not befitting the role of our elected representatives to play this game and to disenfranchise any segment of our population.
2909		Aug 10 2017 10:34AM	Mr. William Owen	It is not this difficult. Stop attempting to give advantage to one party or another and start giving representation to the people. https://qph.ec.quoracdn.net/main-qimg-ab5639656738c07a926d123c8d783156
2910		Aug 10 2017 10:35AM	Ms. Mary White	To the N.C. Legislators - We as N.C. citizens must urge that you immediately REFRAIN from making North Carolina the Top Bastion of Corruption in the USA these days. The majority of the representatives of the N.C. Legislature of the Party in Power are willing to accept any tawdry maneuvering that rends their will from what is just and proper regardless of any well-approved standards of conduct and action that have been heretofore set forth. The N.C. Congress has now shown themselves to become a sleezy bunch of criminals without any due reason and devoid of any proper judicial process. This goes for how they have stripped the current Governor from the very same rights, staffing policies, and funding resources that were made available for his predecessor of their own party and ilk, without tampering by the opposing party. Now they in their same misguided, controversial, and unprincipled, surly fashion are attempting to continue to strip reason and right from the stricture in the re-drawing of the voting lines throughout the state which give unfair advantage to their party based on race. This embarrassing, sordid maneuvering brings gross shame to our state and each and every one of its citizens who cares about integrity. STOP THIS VICIOUS MISBEHAVIOR AT ONCE, we IMPLORE YOU!
2911		Aug 10 2017 10:35AM	Ms. Rose Wilson	I have been a voter in North Carolina since I moved here in Fall/2014. I have been appalled at the NC legislators' blatant trampling of democracy in regards to voting rights. I can't say it better than Common Cause: As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2912		Aug 10 2017 10:38AM	Ms. Diana Bellgowan	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. We all know the harmful impact that partisan and racial gerrymandering has had in our state. It's deprived us of our right to pick our representatives and instead lets politicians pick and choose their voters. You, as representatives of your constituents, need to know that the public supports a redistricting process that doesn't allow our legislative maps to be drawn along political lines and purposefully divides communities of color to weaken their political power. We cannot let you, the redistricting committee, ignore the opinion of the majority of North Carolinians anymore. Thank you.
2913		Aug 10 2017 10:39AM	Mrs. Ellie Mayer	It is not the spirit of the constitution to manipulate voting districts. This country was founded on the principle of Freedom for All (including voters!).
2914		Aug 10 2017 10:40AM	Ms. Kiele Goins	Partisan redistricting is bad for democracy and creates unfair elections. If a political party must manipulate destricts to unfairly favor them and hurt the other party's chances, they are cheating and don't deserve to be a party. North Carolina is the worst with this gerrymandering and it must stop. Asheville, for instance, is shoved into a House district that has a representative that frankly does not care about the city's needs as he rather represent his rural population. This makes it seem that Asheville has not adequate representation in Congrees. Democracy is what America great and it must be protected. Please redraw districts not on partisan influences, but actual population. Democracy depends on it.
2915		Aug 10 2017 10:41AM	Mr. Eric Everett	I am ashamed that NC is reknown for its political corruption and voter suppression. Do the politicians that serve themselves through Gerrymandering truly believe in democracy? As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2916		Aug 10 2017 10:42AM	Mr. Larry Little	Voting districts should follow common-sense boundaries (for example: rivers, other natural divisions, communities, etc.), with a goal of having the overall map look more like a checkerboard than a collection of spiders or hallucinogenic paintings! Racial make-up and political leanings should not factor in.
2917		Aug 10 2017 10:48AM	Mrs. Ann Hess	I oppose the efforts of Trudy Wade and others to Gerrymander our districts to favor Republicans even though they are in the minority. A bi-partisan effort is needed to draw the lines fairly so that each party is represented.

2918		Aug 10 2017 10:51AM	Ms. Deborah McGuinn	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2919		Aug 10 2017 11:00AM	Willie Taylor	The NC General Assembly has the opportunity now to do something historical and lasting, that is re-district NC to provide for fair and balanced elections. I sincerely request that this work be done in a manner that eliminates any sense of partisanship and discrimination.
2920		Aug 10 2017 11:02AM	Ms. Bernice Mitchell	Stop gerimandering !!
2921		Aug 10 2017 11:04AM	Ms. Bernice Mitchell	Stop gerrymandering
2922		Aug 10 2017 11:08AM	Ms. Felicity Gage	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, that prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. Anything short of this is fraudulent and undemocratic and makes a mockery of the all-important privilege of voting.
2923		Aug 10 2017 11:09AM	Mr. Edwin Jones	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2924		Aug 10 2017 11:16AM	Mrs. Linda Campbell	<p>We recently retired to NC where we have stayed at least 3 times a year since 1968. We chose the Tar Heel State BC of friendly neighborhoods and welcoming attitudes. Therefore, when we went to register to vote we were shocked at the "hoops" we had to go through. More importantly, we were distressed to learn how horribly gerrymandering has compromised fair representation.</p> <p>Now is the time to institute,independent of party affiliations, a process that is and will continue to be fair and open. The voters must be able to elect their own legislators not a system where current official "cherry pick" their voters from a map. Do the right thing that will last 100 years from now.</p> <p>Now is the critical time time to</p>
2925		Aug 10 2017 11:17AM	Mr. Rob Davis	<p>As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.</p> <p>We all know the harmful impact that partisan and racial gerrymandering has had in our state. It's deprived us of our right to pick our representatives and instead lets politicians pick and choose their voters.</p> <p>I want to let lawmakers know that the public supports a redistricting process that doesn't allow our legislative maps to be drawn along political lines and purposefully divides communities of color to weaken their political power.</p>
2926		Aug 10 2017 11:19AM	Ms. Sally Stuckey	As a NC resident, I find the gerrymandering done in our state appalling and an impediment to the democratic process. District maps should be redrawn soon so that the 2018 elections will be fair to all. The redistricting process must be fair and open, and must guarantee that partisan and racial attempts to manipulate elections are not implemented. Thank you.
2927		Aug 10 2017 11:19AM	Julie Sunday	<p>As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.</p> <p>We all know the harmful impact that partisan and racial gerrymandering has had in our state. It's deprived us of our right to pick our representatives and instead lets politicians pick and choose their voters.</p> <p>You, as representatives of your constituents, need to know that the public supports a redistricting process that doesn't allow our legislative maps to be drawn along political lines and purposefully divides communities of color to weaken their political power.</p> <p>We cannot let you, the redistricting committee, ignore the opinion of the majority of North Carolinians anymore</p>
2928		Aug 10 2017 11:24AM	Mr. Geoffrey Dunkak	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2929		Aug 10 2017 11:32AM	Ms. Jean DeBarbieri	As a resident of North Carolina, I want criteria for redistricting that prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering.

2930		Aug 10 2017 11:34AM	Mrs. Mary Britt	I believe that you should be able to vote in your county at any polling place. Do away with the districting all together. Simplify the process. It would be so much easier on those who work. It is hard to get to home polling place and wait in line. It would be even better if everyone just mailed in their ballot. That way people don't have to leave home and the postal system would track the flow of the ballots from Voting district to voter and from the voter to district and then the ballot number could be tracked internally by the Board of Elections of each office giving voters a piece of mind that their vote was truly counted. Go a step further and I think all citizens who are eligible should be registered to vote automatically.
2931		Aug 10 2017 11:37AM	Mr. Anthony J Quartararo	Through legal obfuscation & chicanery this immoral, cynical, illegal & unrepresentative body has been able to stay in power for over 2,000 days. This has negated my vote and denied my 14 th Amenmet Rights to Equal Protection & Representation This has stripped powers away from Gov. Cooper & AG Stein , AFTER their election in a blatant affirmation of their bias against fair and equitable government. We need to see these maps NOW so that an assessment can be made as to their fairness and to allow citizens time to decide how they may serve this great State In prior generations Democrats gerrymandered for their own advantage, this generation of GOP politicians have taken gerrymandering to an art form Both sides are wrong and have failed to serve the people of this state. It is time to reset the maps in a fair and equitable manner and release quickly to assure fair and equitable elections Thank you
2932		Aug 10 2017 11:40AM	Virginia Marion	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. It's disgusting that a few politicians have abused their power to distort our legislative maps to favor themselves. I hope this issue can be remedied quickly.
2933		Aug 10 2017 11:45AM	Ms. donna bender	these lines must be drawn to reflect the population, not the party
2934		Aug 10 2017 11:48AM	Mr. Ed King	As a resident of N.C., I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and preventing racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. We all know the harmful impact that partisan and racial gerrymandering has had in our state. It's deprived us of our right to pick our representatives and instead lets politicians pick and choose their voters.
2935		Aug 10 2017 11:51AM	Mr. David Sennett	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2936		Aug 10 2017 11:52AM	Mrs. Shannan Bogdanov	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2937		Aug 10 2017 11:57AM	Kathryn Pezzi	As a resident of North Carolina, born and bred in this state, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want
2938		Aug 10 2017 11:58AM	Mrs. Deborah Kenyon	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.

2939		Aug 10 2017 12:00PM	Tondra Bowers	<p>I understand the Supreme Court heard the legislature's argument regarding the drawing of districts. I have done some research into this area and was shocked to see how each district looked, how it was racially drawn and I now believe, drawn to the benefit of the Republican party. This is not fair representative based on the number of Republicans, Democrats, Independents, etc. NO one party should be engaged in activity that favors one party over the other.</p> <p>I am an Independent voter and fully expect ALL districts to be redrawn asap by a NON-PARTISAN committee. I am an Independent and vote for the person and what they stand for, NOT a party. I am not against a party system, BUT if these types of shenanigans are happening in the party system, should be looked into further in other aspects of our government.</p> <p>Please fight for OUR democracy.</p>
2940		Aug 10 2017 12:02PM	Mr. Dennis Raines	Gerrymandering is just a way to subvert our citizens' right to have their votes counted equally! It has to end! A computer program would do a better job than what has happened in NC in the past! Put in place a fair svstem!
2941		Aug 10 2017 12:03PM	Ms. Pamela Patterson	Please support fair and equitable redistricting to restore the value of each citizen's vote! It is unconscionable that gerrymandering has led to such planned suppression of certain votes! Restore a just and equal representation system to serve the equal rights of all citizens. Thank you for your service to us, your constituents.
2942		Aug 10 2017 12:03PM	Ms. Mary DeStasio	It is important that every citizen of North Carolina have - access to and reasonableness to assume - that their vote will count. Unlawful gerrymandering must stop.
2943		Aug 10 2017 12:13PM	Ms. Shelly Simmons	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2944		Aug 10 2017 12:25PM	Ms. Linda Covington	Please do right by the citizens of North Carolina and insure that voting districts are determined in a fair way!
2945		Aug 10 2017 12:34PM	Mr. David Chaika-Henderson	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2946		Aug 10 2017 12:44PM	Mr. Marion Bogdanov	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2947		Aug 10 2017 12:55PM	Ms. Jeannine Kring	STOP GERRYMANDERING! As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want
2948		Aug 10 2017 12:56PM	Mr. John Crabtree Freeze	Please stop this practice gerrymandering, because it is more to do with a politicians advantage over the people's voice. This is bevond a conflict of interest. It should be downright illegal.
2949		Aug 10 2017 1:00PM	Mr. Michael Covin	When drawing districts, put voters and constituents before personal electoral interests and what parties want. Make districts fair and non-partisan. Court cases have called out unfair and gerrymandered districts. End the games and if you can't win votes in fair districts find a new job cause you should be working for your constituents and not nartisan and snerial interests
2950		Aug 10 2017 1:02PM	Mr. Nick Strange	<p>Simply put, gerrymandering, whether racial or political, is a slap in the face of all voters and discriminatory. When 48% of voters casting ballots receive 20% of the representation, their is a gross miscarriage of voter representation. I expect non-partisan designed voting districts. Please be less partial in drawing up the current re-districting maps, and move towards a non-partisan commission to draw the maps. Partisan gerrymandering is against the constitution any way you look at it.</p> <p>Respectfully,</p>
2951		Aug 10 2017 1:12PM	Roger Townley	Please move forward on correcting the wrongful voting districts. The Supreme Court has ruled the current districts are racially discriminatory and are in violation of voting rights for all.
2952		Aug 10 2017 1:29PM	Mrs. Ellen Gaskill	<p>I support allowing constituents to study the proposed maps. Let the voters see what is proposed.</p> <p>Maps should allow for the voters to choose their representatives.The districts should be drawn to give people a choice.Having 70% of districts as no contest districts is unacceptable. . Dividing districts to weaken racial voting blocks or political voting blocks takes away the opportunity for choice.Districts should be geographically contiguous. Districts should provide a fair opportunity to all voters. Population wise the districts should be equal in size. The districts must be evaluated for racial and political bias.</p>

2953		Aug 10 2017 1:32PM	Dorothy Morgan	The current voting districts in NC do not ensure fair elections and do not make legislators more accountable to their constituents. Voters are discriminated against ethnically and racially making sure these votes do not count, if in fact they are counted. An Independent redistricting commission would return fair and honest elections to our state
2954		Aug 10 2017 1:34PM	Mrs. Sherrie Andrus	Lines should be drawn geographically, not based on race, income, or ethnicity of the local population. This is America!!
2955		Aug 10 2017 1:34PM	Mr. Freddie Cobbs	Voting should be a right to every citizen of age and legislators should not try to influence the election by stacking the deck against minorities so that they can maintain control of the legislature. It is morally wrong and a disgrace to our democracy.
2956		Aug 10 2017 1:35PM	Mrs. Debra George	The gerrymandering that takes place in NC is both grossly dishonest and an embarrassment! Both sides of the isle are guilty of this manipulation of voting for political gain. It's unchristian and undemocratic. I urge you all to let the people vote and fly straight!
2957		Aug 10 2017 1:40PM	Mr. Fred McKee	Please end the (endless and ultimately fruitless and destructive) pursuit of partisan structural advantage through gerrymandering. Establish a fair and simple redistricting process and restore the public's trust. Rules should be simple, and can be listed on a note card: 1) Districts of equal population (the Constitutional mandate). 2) To the greatest extent possible (consistent with rule #1) do not sub-divide counties. 3) To the greatest extent possible (consistent with rules #1 & #2) keep districts geographically COMPACT (determined by mathematical formula). That's it. Anything less (or more) introduces the unclean hands of partisanship and leads inevitably to the failure of government to serve the needs of it's citizens.
2958		Aug 10 2017 1:47PM	Ms. LAURIE CARROLL	WE HAVE ALWAYS BELIEVED IN ONE VOTE FOR EACH PERSON WHO IS ENTITLED TO VOTE. THIS IS NO LONGER POSSIBLE IN OUR STATE. GERRYMANDERING HAS MADE IT THUS AND WE NEED TO STOP GERRYMANDERING AND ENABLE EACH CITIZEN TO HAVE A VOTE COUNTED.
2959		Aug 10 2017 1:55PM	Mrs. Alexis Giachetti	As a North Carolina citizen, I urge that we change to non-partisan redistricting in our state. The Electoral Integrity Project, which measures the the quality of elections worldwide, gave NC a score of 7/100 on the integrity of its voting districts, lower than any other state - or country - analyzed. Clearly, changes need to be made. Nonpartisan redistricting is the best way to break the cycle of escalating “payback” between the political parties. Let's be on the right side of history in ensuring that we have fair elections in our state.
2960		Aug 10 2017 1:57PM	Mr. Scott Beyer	My district changed twice, and I didn't move. Please, if you care about democracy and the will of the people, not just the parties, redraw maps based upon local needs. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2961		Aug 10 2017 2:05PM	Monica Lavery	As a 20 year resident voter and taxpayer of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. To remain faithful to the American democratic system, we should have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees that every voter is equally and fairly represented. Partisan and racial gerrymandering has been practiced by both parties and has had a harmful effect on our State. It has deprived us of our right to pick our representatives and instead lets politicians pick and choose their voters. We the public in North Carolina support a redistricting process that doesn't allow our legislative maps to be drawn along political lines or to purposefully divide communities of color to weaken their political power.
2962		Aug 10 2017 2:13PM	Patricia Young	From Republican Statement: Counties should be kept whole as prescribed by law. Cities and Towns should be kept as whole as possible. We should respect communities of interest. Race should not be a factor in the drawing of legislative districts. The courts should respect the role of the General Assembly, who under the Federal and State Constitutions and the laws of the State of North Carolina are responsible for redistricting ONLY TO THE EXTENT THAT THE MAPS ARE DRAWN TO ALLOW COMPETITIVE DISTRICTS.
2963		Aug 10 2017 2:19PM	Ms. Dayna Feist	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. Anything less is blatantly unamerican, dishonest, and a disservice to the causes for which you initially ran for the legislature. One person, one vote. Give me my vote back

2964		Aug 10 2017 2:26PM	Emily Ford	North Carolinians are watching as the maps are redrawn, and we demand fair and impartial redistricting this time, in accordance with the court order. Only impartial criteria must be used to draw the maps, and the process to be completely transparent. Impartial criteria include creating districts that are compact and community-based; that are contiguous; that follow federal law; and that ignore partisan factors like voter registration, voter turnout in past elections, and the results of past elections. The home addresses of incumbent elected officials must not influence the maps. A transparent process means publishing the criteria used to draw the maps and making public comments public. Thank you.
2965		Aug 10 2017 2:33PM	Ms. Tamara Sanders	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2966		Aug 10 2017 2:38PM	Ms. Carol Hay	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. Members of the legislature should not be able to choose their voters through the redistricting process.
2967		Aug 10 2017 2:58PM	Ms. JOYCE SHIFFRIN	PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE ALWAYS END RACIAL GERRYMANDERING!!!
2968		Aug 10 2017 2:59PM	Ms. Sandy Irving	Please move on non-partisan redistricting. That is the right thing to do to correct current problems and prevent problems in the future.
2969		Aug 10 2017 3:05PM	Ms. Martha Spann	I am strongly opposed to gerrymandering.. It negates a person's vote. It destroys the meaning of democracy
2970		Aug 10 2017 3:06PM	Mrs. Robin Hall	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2971		Aug 10 2017 3:32PM	Stephanie Scaramelli	It's 2017 - get a handle on it and quit trying to cut out voters of color by arbitrarily drawing district lines. Get a life folks, please.
2972		Aug 10 2017 3:53PM	Dr. Mikael Broadway	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. I hope that the new maps can create compact and contiguous. Eliminating fingers, wrap-arounds, tails, and meandering should be a priority. The maps should make it possible for all groups to elect representatives. They should promise a result as close as possible to the statewide proportion of party voting. If the state is 50-50 democrat and republican, the districts should give a reasonable expectation that those numbers would be reflected in the General Assembly in both houses. Also, districts should allow real electoral competition wherever possible. There should not be a large number of "guaranteed" seats for either party. We expect fair elections, and the maps have been our greatest hindrance. Do better this time!
2973		Aug 10 2017 4:05PM	Mr. Jeff Chandler	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. The current system unfairly favors one party and goes completely against the democratic norms established by our founding fathers. We might as well be living under a one party, totalitarian regime! The current system favors a power grab by one party over the other and amounts to political "cheating". America should **always** deal on the square. The current system, further, blackens our reputation in the eyes of our allies and enemies alike, and presents the appearance that America is a "failing" democracy instead of the leader of the free world we used to be. We used to be a country with high ideals and standards. Alas, it seems, more and more that our best days are behind us.
2974		Aug 10 2017 4:05PM	Mrs. Loraine Buker	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want
2975		Aug 10 2017 4:13PM	Ms. Amy Zinn	Take the power of districting away from the partisan legislature and create a multi-partisan, independent council to draw district lines. Using a computer to create bipartisan districts would allow elected officials to have to compromise to get elected and pass legislation.

2976		Aug 10 2017 4:14PM	Mrs. Katherine Dreyer	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. This is currently NOT the case. The courts have spoken, several times. Fair redistricting is what North Carolina needs.
2977		Aug 10 2017 4:16PM	Mr. Gary Wallach	One decade it will be one party that rules in another decade it could easily change. Please, short term wins for either party don't make our state better. Everyone should count equally. Our state should not be gerrymandered. Thank you.
2978		Aug 10 2017 4:18PM	Whitney Duquette	Take the power of districting away from the partisan legislature and create a multi-partisan, independent council to draw district lines. Using a computer to create bipartisan districts would allow elected officials to have to compromise to get elected and pass legislation.
2979		Aug 10 2017 4:19PM	charles calig	GERRYMANDERING WENT OUT WITH GERRY AND THE GOD FORSAKEN K.K.K. GET REAL AND WAKE THE FLOCK UP....C.C.
2980		Aug 10 2017 4:31PM	Ms. Julie Frey	NOTE TO POLITICIANS,STOP CHEATING BY REDISTRICTING AND WORK TOGETHER BECAUSE AMERICANS NEED HELP NOT OBSTRUCTIONISM!!
2981		Aug 10 2017 4:51PM	Mr. Thomas Blanton	I opposed gerrymandering when the Democrats did it and I oppose it now. My vote deserves to compete fairly with the others in my district.
2982		Aug 10 2017 4:51PM	Mr. Eric McManus	Arranging districts to favor one party or another is inherently undemocratic and not at all what the founders of our country intended. A fair system that insures that the will of the people will be implemented must be created immediately.
2983		Aug 10 2017 4:57PM	Ms. Lisa Rademacher	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2984		Aug 10 2017 5:01PM	Ms. Jillian Robson	This comment is to state my opposition to any artificial means to affect voting and shape voting by either race, party or any other artificial criteria =gerrymandering I have the reasonable expectation to vote for my politician, not the politician selecting the voters they want. I have the reasonable expectation to vote in a district that has similar concerns geographically etc. I know this has high bipartisan consensus and have attended sessions that show it is easy to convene a non-partisan group To redraw new lines that do not require any input other than a stick figure for each voter, no need for race or party attributes. Governing in the USA is getting manipulated at all levels, state and federal for a 'WIN' and the shenanigans are making me sick including voter rights erosion. SO FOR THE SAKE OF THE STATE AND USA , re-establish fair, transparent and sound districts Jillian Robson
2985		Aug 10 2017 5:12PM	Mr. James Ansley	You don't fool us, The only way you can win is by cheating. You just might try to support the working people in the state instead of your rich puppet masters. You claim to be avid Christians. That means followers of Christ. Chris would never disrespect fellow human beings the way that you people do!
2986		Aug 10 2017 5:16PM	Dr. Karen Hodges	North Carolina has the dubious distinction of being known nationwide for gerrymandering, in a blatant attempt to suppress the vote in a partisan fashion. This cannot stand. A bedrock principle of democracy is that all eligible citizens be able to vote without undue difficulty. It has already been difficult at times for persons like myself, getting on in years and uncomfortable standing in very long lines, to register my preferences at the polls. What makes it worse is that my vote counts for little in my gerrymandered district, where the outcome is pretty much guaranteed. North Carolina cannot continue to hold the respect and confidence of its citizens if this state of affairs continues. Please do the right thing and find a way to conduct redistricting in a sensible and non-partisan manner. Thank you for considering my views, Dr. Karen Hodges
2987		Aug 10 2017 5:24PM	Mrs. Cindy Shoaf	Please make any redistricting of maps fair for all NC voters. No more gerrymandering!
2988		Aug 10 2017 5:41PM	Ms. carole rushing	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2989		Aug 10 2017 6:06PM	Ms. Maratha Kennedy	The people of North Carolina demand Legislative redistricting that draws new districts that are free from racial or partisan skewing. No more "safe" districts for either party. Thank you, Martha Kennedy
2990		Aug 10 2017 6:08PM	Mrs. Raynor James	Redistricting should keep counties intact where possible. I am extremely opposed to any redistricting that is designed to remove a conservative House or Senate member.

2991		Aug 10 2017 6:11PM	Mr. William Blaine	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
2992		Aug 10 2017 6:50PM	Dr. Marcia Frost	As an American citizen I have the right to vote and to have my vote count. I have been repeatedly disenfranchised by the gerrymandered districts. Democracy requires that all citizens have their voices heard and their votes matter. Do you job as an American!
2993		Aug 10 2017 7:28PM	Mr. Mark Taylor	Please don't support Gerrymandering. It's clearly a highly undemocratic means to run a voting district system...regardless of party. There are fairer means to decide on districts. It's a cancer to our democracy. Pleased be a part of a fair solution. Step up as a true patriot.
2994		Aug 10 2017 8:20PM	Mrs. Elizabeth Revis	Gerrymandering is WRONG. It is shameful that our state uses it to such a gross extent. District lines need to be redrawn FAIRLY and without ANY partisan lines. Additionally, Tom Hoffeller has no business tainting the process by redrawing lines. Find someone who is fair and unbiased and make our state honest again!
2995		Aug 10 2017 8:31PM	Mrs. Nancy Nance	I urge you to be fair and unbiased in the redistricting bill. We do not need crooked business in our voting districts.
2996		Aug 10 2017 8:37PM	Mr. Dave Walsh	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. The best solution would be to establish a non-partisan process so that the practice of partisan gerrymandering ends. I know there are models and proposals for how to do this.
2997		Aug 10 2017 8:51PM	Dr. George Thompson	<p>Citizens of the State of North Carolina have a debt of gratitude to those patriarchs of wisdom who forged a new reality--the emergence of a free state from its colonial oppression. We do these visionaries an injustice when we support the practice of gerrymandering that defies the democratic process.</p> <p>Moreover, we irrevocably harm our sons and daughters by sustaining this practice as we move deeply into the 21st Century. "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." The golden rule of politics, when applied, would end this disrespect for our founding fathers/mothers and secure a just future for our children.</p> <p>North Carolina will only achieve greatness by adopting a fair and unbiased alignment of its voting districts so that every vote truly shall be considered sacred and valuable.</p> <p>--Rev. Dr. George E. Thompson</p>
2998		Aug 10 2017 8:54PM	Lois Roewade	I am asking the legislators to draw district maps that are fair and representative of the population within that district. We have to end the racial and partisan drawing of districts that favor one political party or unfairly put people of certain ethnicity within one district.The current maps must be changed and going forward the state of NC must institute a policy of non-partisan, non-racial district maps drawn by an independent commission. This will ensure fairness for political parties and ethnicities.
2999		Aug 10 2017 8:56PM	Mrs. Selene Russo	I have heard there have been delays in the redistricting process. This can't happen, there is only one more year until the 2018 elections and as citizens of this country we have a right to know what district we are in early enough to begin researching the choices for our representatives. Delaying further is a violation of our rights and a disgusting way to get elected. If you want to get re-elected, earn it the right way, by working for the citizens you represent and doing good things for everyone, not special interests or the far right or left.
3000		Aug 10 2017 9:08PM	Ms. Melyssa Allen	As a citizen of Noth Carolina I believe our elections should be fair. The current districts have been ruled illegal and I don't believe the person who drew the current illegal maps should be involved in drawing the new ones. I think a nonpartisan group should draw our districts to ensure they are fair for all voters. Voters should get the representation that we want and that we vote for, not the part that is in control because of gerrymandering. This is why people become discouraged and just don't vote. Representatives should be for all citizens, not just their party. Thank you.
3001		Aug 10 2017 9:38PM	Ms. Bepi Pinner	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
3002		Aug 10 2017 9:44PM	Mr. Michael Barton	I would like to see a bipartisan independent committee to do the redistricting.
3003		Aug 10 2017 9:44PM	Ms. Stacy Hanna	<p>Voters should get to pick their representatives, not the other way around.</p> <p>Anything less than an independent redistricting commission within a system of proportional representation is unfair and unacceptable.</p>
3004		Aug 10 2017 10:10PM	Ms. Lucretia Dickson	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.

3005		Aug 10 2017 10:19PM	Ms. Melissa Dittmer	<p>As an NC voter, I support districts that accurately represent ALL the citizens of the state. I want to see these criteria used to create maps for NC Senate and House and US Congressional districts that represent ALL NC citizens, not just those of one party:</p> <p>Districts that are geographically compact and contiguous.</p> <p>Districts that are NOT established with the major purpose of diluting the voting strength of any people or groups, including any political party.</p> <p>Boundaries that respect communities of interest; specifically areas with shared social and economic interests, such as those shared by an agricultural community, an industrial area, or an area in which people share local natural resources for their livelihood (for example, fishing in coastal areas).</p>
3006		Aug 10 2017 10:38PM	Ms. Shelby Wade	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
3007		Aug 10 2017 10:50PM	Mrs. Pat DiSarro	End gerrymandering now. We demand fair and equal redistricting not redistricting based on race and political party. Show the public the proposed maps.
3008		Aug 10 2017 11:02PM	Mr. David Reynolds	As a North Carolina resident, I would prefer redistricting be done in such a way that no political party can design the maps to give it an advantage in future elections. Although this practice has been used by both major parties for a very long time, I believe it is an assault on the rights of the voters because it attempts to predetermine the outcomes of elections without regard the the wishes of the majority. Please make the process of drawing the new maps open and transparent; and all of the districts, as fair and impartial as possible. Thank you.
3009		Aug 10 2017 11:11PM	Ms. Cle Thompson	NO racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented.
3010		Aug 10 2017 11:41PM	Ms. Marjorie Zack	It is critical we eliminate the gerrymandered districts in NC. We voters should be electing our representatives. The way the districts are currently established, it results in public officials selecting their voters. This situation has put our Republic in great peril.
3011		Aug 11 2017 12:03AM	Mr. Harvey Sellner	The time has come to implement redistricting to follow the courts' direction. North Carolina needs open and fair elections.
3012		Aug 11 2017 5:24AM	Mr. Randy Billington	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
3013		Aug 11 2017 5:36AM	Ms. Mary McLees-Lane	We NC voters deserve a process for drawing political district maps that is fair and open; avoids racial or partisan gerrymandering; and allows us to choose our political representatives. Follow best practice guidelines and ensure our districts are: Compact, coinciding with cities and towns and avoiding splitting counties;Contiguous, meaning that the districts are not merely joined at the corners; Follow state and federal law, such as the Voting Rights Act; and Ignore all partisan factors such as voter registration, voter turnout, past election results, and the residence of incumbents.
3014		Aug 11 2017 7:12AM	Mr. Ed Mathis	It is unfair and against the principles that this country was founded upon to deny lawful citizens the chance to fairly choose the representatives/senators of their choice to represent them in the government. The gerrymandering in effect now predetermines who will win and where, effectively stripping many people of their constitutional right to be represented! Gerrymandering MUST BE ENDED and a neutral panel must be created to fairly set district boundaries!
3015		Aug 11 2017 7:26AM	Ms. Marion Paynter	Please take this opportunity to draw fair, impartial districts. No lines drawn for political advantage. Just districts that will reflect the voice of the people. To do otherwise subverts the very foundation of democracy.
3016		Aug 11 2017 7:38AM	Mr. Richard Kring	Stop being childish and racist and comply with the Supreme Court ruling. Redistrict in a logical, simple manner and not based on race or political party registrations.
3017		Aug 11 2017 7:54AM	Mr. Walter Dietrich	Current district US House Representative does not represent me. The redistricting that occurred a few years ago stretches all the way to northern Charlotte. I feel that he represents those people and not the needs of the people who live east of them to include Cumberland County. Equal representation for all North Carolinians should be considered to include race as a redistricting criteria
3018		Aug 11 2017 8:12AM	Dr. Aleksandra McClain	District-drawing in NC has for too long been co-opted and abused for reasons that do not serve the benefit of the state or its people, but only the politicians and political parties. At its best, redistricting in NC has been nakedly partisan, and at its worst, it's been racist, disenfranchising, and illegal. Our state's record in this matter is appalling, and those who have manipulated it to their ends should be ashamed. Both Democrats and Republicans have proven themselves to be incapable of carrying out district-drawing in a fair manner, so it must be taken out of the hands of politicians. It is long past time for an independent, non-partisan redistricting committee to take the place of our current system.

3019		Aug 11 2017 8:55AM	Ms. Julie Short	<p>My husband, Edward Short, and I are registered NC voters. Our zip code is 27939.</p> <p>I am writing to let you know that we both support Non Partisan Redistricting.</p> <p>It has already been established that the existing lines are racially discriminatory, and the citizens of North Carolina and our representatives are better than this.</p> <p>Non Partisan Redistricting is the ONLY way to maintain our democratic process and the retain public trust of our democratic system.</p> <p>Should this not occur, we are setting our state up for lawsuits that will result in a tremendous financial loss.</p> <p>These funds could be better spent in repairing our infrastructure, improving the educational system, promoting new business and marketing the state’s many attributes to prospective tourists.</p> <p>This is a critical voting component for us, and we thank you for your consideration. Best ~ Julie Short</p>
3020		Aug 11 2017 9:01AM	Ms. Cam Choiniere	Please redraw the district lines in a way that does not skew towards party or racial divides. We need fair representation in our state.
3021		Aug 11 2017 9:13AM	Ms. Robin Raines	<p>As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.</p> <p>We all know the harmful impact that partisan and racial gerrymandering has had in our state. It’s deprived us of our right to pick our representatives and instead lets politicians pick and choose their voters.</p> <p>You, as representatives of your constituents, need to know that the public supports a redistricting process that doesn’t allow our legislative maps to be drawn along political lines and purposefully divides communities of color to weaken their political power.</p> <p>We cannot let you, the redistricting committee, ignore the opinion of the majority of North Carolinians anymore</p>
3022		Aug 11 2017 9:14AM	Mrs. Julia Howe	One person, one vote, and fair redistricting.
3023		Aug 11 2017 9:16AM	Ms. Diana Gray	<p>I favor fair competition in all district level elections with an equitable distribution of the voting population by party affiliation, racial-ethnic identity, gender and age. When that is possible, more people will vote knowing their vote counts and will have an impact. Stop voter suppression and frustration and allow democracy to work as it is intended</p>
3024		Aug 11 2017 9:18AM	Ms. Kate Capehart	It's past time for gerrymandered maps to be redrawn. I want the criteria for redistricting to be fair, and to ensure that the maps are free of racial and political bias. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
3025		Aug 11 2017 9:24AM	Mr. Thomas Fehsenfeld	<p>With a case working its way to the Supreme Court on partisan gerrymandering, it would be a shame if NC handled its problem with racial gerrymandering through redistricting and then had to go back in a year or two to redraw districts to eliminate partisan advantage. Rather than continually playing catch up with the law and court decisions, I recommend that the committee proactively anticipate a ruling against partisan gerrymandering and draw districts that minimize the "wasted votes" of having too many voters of a party crammed into particular districts.</p> <p>You have a chance to make North Carolina a leader in redistricting, rather than a laggard. I hope that you will take up the challenge and</p>
3026		Aug 11 2017 9:27AM	Dr. Denise Finck-Rothman	<p>It has been determined that North Carolina ranks very low for democracy on a recent study, worse then many third world countries. Our current system is not fair to the citizens of North Carolina. Both the State Assembly and Senate do not represent the voters of this state because of gerrymandering! Please create fair election districts. No more racial or political gerrymandering</p>
3027		Aug 11 2017 9:34AM	Audrey Muck	Please draw the new electoral maps without regard to race (but conforming to the federal requirements), political affiliation or incumbency. Our state is dreadfully divided and needs healing - the healing that comes with basic respect for each other and an atmosphere of fairness and integrity. The courts have swatted down all the maps drawn through gamesmanship - do the right thing this time for ALL North Carolinians. Let the best ideas win at the ballot box without tricks to pre-determine the outcome, or to erode the power of the individual vote: it will restore faith in the democratic process.
3028		Aug 11 2017 9:34AM	Mr. Erica Kitchen	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.

3029		Aug 11 2017 10:07AM	Ms. Anne Cerrano	I think that making the districts based on racial demographics was a deplorable choice by the state. It is also not right to make the districts based on distribution of voters registered to a particular party or to exclude particular candidates from a district and change the lines based on where their homes are. I do not think the people who made this decision should be allowed to redraw the lines. If possible we should have an independent commission to draw them if at all possible. Apparently our legislators can't be trusted to do this correctly.I have seen multiple maps by independent entities that more evenly distribute the districts based on population. It can be done but I don't think our current legislators are ethical enough to do the job
3030		Aug 11 2017 10:18AM	Dr. James Boyles	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. Your politics must not affect the process. The right of the citizens of North Carolina to a fully representative body of elected officials is what matters
3031		Aug 11 2017 10:30AM	Mr. Robert Hamby	Please create compact voting districts whose boundaries are determined by mathematical processes. Software that can accomplish that can be purchased off the shelf.
3032		Aug 11 2017 10:49AM	Ms. JACQUELINE ABELL	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want
3033		Aug 11 2017 11:10AM	Dr. Sara Schneidmiller	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
3034		Aug 11 2017 11:12AM	Dr. keith roberts	Gerrymandering is an intentional process to control elections for partisan purposes and is anti-democratic. There is no place for it in ND. New dist0RICTS should be drawn so yeah citizen's vote actually and really counts.
3035		Aug 11 2017 11:13AM	Mr. jack Smalley	Last year Democrats won nearly 50% of the vote---yet hold only 38% of the seats in the State House and only 30% of the seats in the State Senate
3036		Aug 11 2017 11:22AM	Mr. Larry Reed	It is critical that the General Assembly not waste more public funding on partisan contractors such as Tom Hofeller to distort the NC democratic process. The redistricting process should be a non-partisan based effort. The partisan General Assembly will again embarrass our state and continue to subvert our democracy. The process should be transparent and decided early to allow both political parties to offer the citizens of North Carolina free electoral choices. Politically biasing the process is sleazy, ignorant, and short sighted.
3037		Aug 11 2017 11:48AM	Mr. D. Rex Miller	North Carolina and its citizens deserve fair elections, with candidates elected on their (perceived) merits . . . not based on which voters they chose to help one party or the other win and remain in power. Stop fighting fair districting, stop fighting the redistricting directives, stop making our state a laughing stock as non-democratic.
3038		Aug 11 2017 12:19PM	Laura Boggess	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
3039		Aug 11 2017 12:25PM	Ms. Toni Wiker	Gerrymandering is wrong, it discourages the people from voting and minimizes the power of individual votes. The foundation of a democracy is built upon the strength of the people as exhibited through the voting process. Gerrymandering undermines our democracy and must end.
3040		Aug 11 2017 12:35PM	Mr. James Janiga	STOP Redistricting NOW...it is wrong and should never happen, regardless of what party is in power.
3041		Aug 11 2017 12:54PM	Mr. David Pschirer	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
3042		Aug 11 2017 12:57PM	Sondra VanSant	Dear legislators, Do you truly believe there is a way to fairly represent all your constituents in this state body if you continue redistricting efforts as an "inherently political" endeavor. By definition this disenfranchises hundreds if not thousands of people in your county, not to mention discouraging real debate that makes more likely the chance that the best of divergent views can be discovered and implemented. Anything that is "inherent" to the point of disenfranchising is both unAmerican and undemocratic. Please get on the right side of North Carolina history and take a nonpartisan approach.

3043		Aug 11 2017 1:32PM	Ms. Julie Walter	I'm a constituent of Nags Head, North Carolina and I support districts that accurately represent ALL the citizens of the state. Districts should represent the people, not the party who created them. Districts should not be drawn for the purpose of favoring or discriminating against any incumbent, political candidate or political party. Sincerely, Julie Walter
3044		Aug 11 2017 1:32PM	Mr. Nidhal Rashid	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
3045		Aug 11 2017 1:33PM	John Schlabach	I am writing to express my strong support for non-partisan redistricting; let the people of NC choose their representatives fairly.
3046		Aug 11 2017 1:39PM	Mr. Michael Tinker	Dear ladies and gentlemen of the General Assembly, For too many years I have watched politicians choose their voters in North Carolina instead of voters choosing their leaders. It is rank and tyrannical.I am also tired of the childish responses that Democrats did it first. You are good people, but YOU have done it on steroids. Period. I also know that The Republican State Leadership Committee in D.C. drew the maps. Power for powers sake? I am also aware of Art Pope and Tom Hofeller role in the 10-3 maps that were drawn. Reynolds American, Time Warner, Duke energy, and others donated millions to this effort. Gee, what could these rich people and corporations get from this? The Peoples House has become tainted as lackeys for the rich. I sincerely hope that you stop dragging your feet and immediately begin drawing new maps. As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. Sincerely, Michael
3047		Aug 11 2017 1:57PM	Ms. Adele Tatta	We want voting maps drawn free from partisan politics. Please support non-partisan redistricting. Gerrymandering is undemocratic and unrepresentative. Gerrymandering decreases competition, and contributes to political polarization, which we have way too much of.
3048		Aug 11 2017 2:13PM	Mr. Jim McDermott	No racial or partisan redistricting; produce a fair and impartial map. In the longer run, establish a non-partisan citizen redistricting commission.
3049		Aug 11 2017 3:10PM	Yvonne & William Duiker	PLEASE ESTABLISH NON-PARTISAN REDISTRICTING! Thank you.
3050		Aug 11 2017 3:16PM	Mr. Ercel Dotson	Lets do this in a nonpartican,fair and honest way for a change.
3051		Aug 11 2017 3:18PM	Mr. Thomas Worden	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial, partisan or other forms of gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly renresented.
3052		Aug 11 2017 3:19PM	Mrs. D'Lee Worden	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial, partisan or other forms of gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly renresented.
3053		Aug 11 2017 3:27PM	Mrs. Sheryl Harmon	Please end the practice of gerrymandering. It causes people of both parties to lose confidence in our democratic system. A non-partisan group using a non-partisan technique should redraw the districts. I was recently in a district that separated me from voters in my community, my county and my urban area. The method of redistricting should not predetermine election outcome. Please restore democracy to NC. Thank you!
3054		Aug 11 2017 3:42PM	Dr. B. Titus Allen	I urge you to pursue redistricting as ordered by the courts and to strongly consider an independent commission to set legislative and congressional districts.
3055		Aug 11 2017 4:12PM	Robert Stover	Gerrymandering. Democrats do it .Republicans do it. But the Republicans just got absurd with it . It almost seems like the GOP doesn't know how to wield power properly e.g.the NC Legislature,the U.S. Congress and and Trump.
3056		Aug 11 2017 4:54PM	Jamie Sebaaly	I support an independent commission for redistricting. This should not be a partisan issue. Other states have independent organizations in charge of districting and NC should too. Do not allow illegal gerrymandering to continue!

3057		Aug 11 2017 5:01PM	Mr. michael veatch	Independent commission to do it. PLEASE!
3058		Aug 11 2017 6:29PM	Ms. Beth Pensiero	It is crucial that districts be redrawn to reflect real communities of diversity to promote a FAIR election process. Districts should represent their popular votes organically and not be carved up into racial enclaves for the sake of Republican power mongering.
3059		Aug 11 2017 7:51PM	Ms. Laura Phail	The country and our state have become so divided in the past few years. Wouldn't it be great if North Carolina could be the model for fair redistricting, not based on racial bias or partisanship? One that would truly represent the wishes of the people, not the politicians. I hope you can find a process which is open and fair and results in a plan that will serve all the people, and not be thrown out in the courts once again. Thank you. Laura Phail
3060		Aug 11 2017 8:42PM	Mrs. Charlotte Wooten	Fair and equal representation is our right. Gerrymandering has restricted our right and ability to elect candidates of our choosing. Clearly we need redistricting that fairly represents all voters. We have seen in NC the effects of lines drawn to minimize the votes of certain groups. Time to fix this, fix it FAIRLY and in a way that acknowledges the voices of all of our population.
3061		Aug 11 2017 8:48PM	Mr. Brian Pfaff	We are asking for two things: the use of impartial criteria to draw the maps, and the process to be completely transparent. Impartial criteria include creating districts that are compact and community-based; that are contiguous; that follow federal law; and that ignore partisan factors like voter registration, voter turnout in past elections, and the results of past elections. The home addresses of incumbent elected officials must not influence the maps. A transparent process means publishing the criteria used to draw the maps and making public comments PUBLIC.
3062		Aug 11 2017 9:02PM	Deborah Gassmann	I request and support an independent bipartisan commission to draw all legislative redistricting maps. Using partisan commissions on either side will continue to favor the side drawing them, and will most likely end up back in court with fees to be paid by taxpayers. Let's do this properly on the first try rather than have court battles over districts.
3063		Aug 11 2017 9:13PM	Mr. Thomas Craig	We need to stop moving away from the democracy that some of the greatest Americans envisioned but as Langston Hughes voiced, "it is not America yet". This means taking it out of the hands of politicians and leaving the districting up to social scientists independent of the political process.
3064		Aug 11 2017 9:18PM	Ms. georgia honeycutt	We need to use impartial criteria for any redistricting and any processes should be clear and transparent. Also,all the OWM (old white men) in the Republican party should be renlaced.
3065		Aug 11 2017 10:45PM	Mrs. Karen Miller	No more gerrymandering!!!!
3066		Aug 12 2017 3:20AM	Ann Brady	Please do what you can to promote fair redistricting. Our voting districts should be determined by a method that is fair and open and prevents racial and/or partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn such that everyone is guaranteed equal and fair representation. We want to pick our representatives; not have them pick us! I am aware that gerrymandering has been used (abused) by both parties over time. It is time to move forward and stop this practice! A good democracy hinges on people of all opinions and backgrounds being represented in government. Our state is quite diverse and actually rather balanced if you compare numbers of liberal vs conservative leaning voters; let our legislature reflect the people! Make the districts fair. Thank you for considering my opinion.
3067		Aug 12 2017 4:53AM	Mrs. Jackie Benton	Both houses of the NC legislature should vote to end the unjust, prejudicial practice of gerrymandering. It is unethical and immoral to draw district lines so that one political party holds prominence over the other, or to change the racial composition of any district to one that excludes minorities from voting
3068		Aug 12 2017 8:20AM	Ms. Gilda Nifong	The redistricting map should not look like a jigsaw puzzle but should be structured in an organized manner so that entire communities, cities or counties are in the same district, using some criteria ie: zipcode or other sensible guidelines.
3069		Aug 12 2017 9:35AM	Dr. Jeffrey Collins	Districts should be drawn in a non-partisan manner without aiming to inappropriately gerrymander for racial or partisan advantage or disadvantage.
3070		Aug 12 2017 9:51AM	Mr. Allen Plaster	I have been very disappointed with the performance of partisan politics with repect to drawing districts that every voter's vote to be equal in value to every other voter's vote. In other words, "stacking the deck" by intentionally segregating certain voters into a few districts based on some criteria that the majority party deems suitable in order to limit the number of legislative positions available for those voters to have representing them is unfair and should not be allowed. Since I feel that the current district maps do just that, I believe that many incumbent senators and representatives were unfairly elected and should not be "protected" in the redistricting effort. Perhaps it is time to remove the redistricting process from the political stage and assign it to a non-partisan commission. Thank you.
3071		Aug 12 2017 10:07AM	Ms. Gail Anderson	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.

3072		Aug 12 2017 10:07AM	Ms. Susan White	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn fairlv.
3073		Aug 12 2017 10:15AM	Ms. Cornelia Whittlesey	Please use zip codes and county lines to geographically simplify district boundaries. I have to look up my 4-digit zip code to reach my congressman. I am also frequently directed to the wrong congressman when I go through an organization to comment on proposed legislation. It is also very confusing to see NC state senator boundaries extend like jagged fingers into adjacent counties, or realize how many rural counties are in two state senate districts.
3074		Aug 12 2017 12:52PM	Dr. William R. Hoyt	I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. Our legislative maps should be drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
3075		Aug 12 2017 12:56PM	Ms. Rebecca Marks	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
3076		Aug 12 2017 1:11PM	joseph lyons	Gerrymandering is an attack on our democracy. No other law on the boooks is so pernicious and unfair; it makes a mockery of our values as American citixens. It is not as if we lack fair criteria for drawing non-partisan maps based on population shift. Our districts should be contiguous and compact and should not reflect race, gender, social status or party affiliation. But the maps drawn in 2911 by our Republican legislature completely ignore these criteria. This idiocy must stop. I am so sick of our rancid politicians--of both parties--who will do almost anything, including subverting our democracy, to stay in office. Shame! Shame on them all.
3077		Aug 12 2017 1:14PM	Mrs. HELEN Reilly	Redistricting must be fair and prevent racial and partisan gerrymanding.Our maps need to guarantee that we elect who we want
3078		Aug 12 2017 1:31PM	Ms. Arianne Hartsell-Gundy	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
3079		Aug 12 2017 1:48PM	Mr. Thomas Clayton	To insure that every voter is equally and fairly represented—as intended by both our State and Federal Constitutions—redistricting should avoid racial as well as partisan gerrymandering, by ignoring such data as party registrations, previous voting patterns, and current officeholders.
3080		Aug 12 2017 1:55PM	Mr. MIKE ORNDOFF	what "went round" will "come" round.....do the right and fair thing!
3081		Aug 12 2017 2:24PM	Mr. Andrew Johnston	Packing and cracking have been apparent to any third party that reviews North Carolina's districts. End the partisan approach and remove legislatures from the process. We need local representation and competitive districts that drive our representatives to balance everyone's needs with compromise and broadly appealing policies. The current approach to districts encourages extreme polarizing positions that only focus on winning primaries and then ensure an approximately zero chance of losing a re-election. Legislating to protect primary wins is a recipe for disaster. Please end the cycle with a non-partisan, non-legislature driven approach. Thank you
3082		Aug 12 2017 6:54PM	Ms. Susan Howell	An independent committee must be the formed immediately, before November, to hasten and ensure legal redrawing of our voting maps. Anything less is not acceptable. The redistricting of maps to date and 'gerrymandering' by both sides of the aisle has been allowed for too long; this deplorable practice should have been made illegal from the start
3083		Aug 12 2017 11:39PM	Mr. Derek Manning	If one isn't good enough to win an election without having it gerrymandered for their party, then one isn't good enough to be elected. PEACE
3084		Aug 13 2017 12:30AM	Mrs. Barbara Robertson	Gerrymandering by either political party and whether it is carried on in a racist manner, for political purposes, or for any other reason, is bad for our democracy and should not be allowed.
3085		Aug 13 2017 11:32AM	Dr. Judith Porter	Please support fair non-partisan redistricting.
3086		Aug 13 2017 1:10PM	Mr. William Walz	I am outraged at the contempt shown for the democratic process by the Republican controlled NC legislative bodies. I insist you draw district maps that show integrity of geographic and city and township areas. That you can draw districts so that Democrats have a plurality of votes in an area yet are represented by Republicans is simply un-American
3087		Aug 13 2017 1:36PM	Mollie Wildes	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We demand to have our legislative Maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. Not the other way around!
3088		Aug 13 2017 1:43PM	Mr. Neil Brown	There is absolutely no excuse to continue valuing some peoples' votes over others, which is exactly what gerrymandering creates. My House rep, Chuck McGrady, has taken the lead in sponsoring corrective legislation and an intelligent approach to redistricting. Please join him, and put this bias to bed forever.

3089		Aug 13 2017 4:32PM	Mrs. Linda Furr	East Asheville should not be with Gastonia. All need changes so we get to choose out Reps. This is why I left the Republican Party as did many of my family and friend. You have Hi-Jacked the Republican Party. Shame on vou GOP map makers.
3090		Aug 13 2017 7:21PM	Mrs. Bessie Yarborough	When drawing lines, that divide Districts, please do not draw zig zags as you did in Mt. Olive, NC. Example:On an alphabetical walking LIST, USED FOR canvassing...you have as Jurisdiction...3 homes on Smith Street...NC Senate District 5, County Commissioner/school board Districts 2. Precinct #25. Three homes on N. Southerland ST NC Senate District 7...Co. Comm. /sch bd Dist. 2...S. South Southerand ST. 3 homes Pct. 25, NC Senate District 7, with County Comm/Sch. Bd. District 4. Then Precinct #30 Three more homes on Washington Ave...Precinct #30, NC Senate District 5, County Comm. Dist /School Bd District 2, ...then there is just one house at the 218 West Williamson Street Precinct #25, NC Senate District 5, County Comm/School Bd District 2. You have just 3 homes on Bell Ave. Two are in Precinct #30 and the other in Precinct #28. Persons working on this Committee need to CARE about drawing these Maps..These people must "do the work" if he/she does not want to be Voted out of office
3091		Aug 13 2017 7:46PM	Ms. Allison Murray-Nikkel	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
3092		Aug 13 2017 8:33PM	Ms. Carolyn Wilson	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
3093		Aug 13 2017 10:49PM	Mr. Abraham Myles	Maps should be redrawn to meet the minimum requirements to satisfy the requirements of the courts. The districts maps have always been drawn basis upon which party contolthe redistricting process.
3094		Aug 13 2017 11:01PM	Dr. Matthew Zerden	I am a concerned NC citizen, and I want NC lawmakers to create voting maps that are drawn FREE of partisan politics. Thank you, Matt Zerden. MD
3095		Aug 14 2017 7:51AM	Jane Kestenbaum	When redrawing the voting districts, I would urge my Legislators to keep voting maps free a partisan politics. One person should have one vote.Districts should be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compact and contiguous as measured by Polsby-Popper, Convex Hull, Schwartzber, Reock, or other similar tests. • Politically neutral (not unduly favoring or disfavoring any political party or individual) as determined by the Efficiency Gap measurement. No individual addresses (such as the addresses of candidates or incumbents) should be used. • Compliant with the Voting Rights Act: Specifically, districts must be designed so that, based on a totality of the circumstances, the election process is equally open to participation by the members of a protected class; and cohesive groups of minority voters usually have the opportunity to elect the candidate of their choice, as determined by a multi-year Polarized Voting Analysis or similar quantitative assessment if the court schedule allows time for assessment. • All information related to redistricting from legislators, legislative staff, consultants, and contractor(s) whether paid by General Assembly or not should be immediately available to the public.
3096		Aug 14 2017 7:55AM	Mrs. Brenda Denton	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
3097		Aug 14 2017 9:21AM	Randy Saelens	I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.

3098		Aug 14 2017 10:08AM	Mr. James Riley	<p>Criteria 1, population equality, is both inadequate and too restrictive.</p> <p>The NC constitution requires that districts have "as nearly as may be, an equal number of inhabitants". This is the target, what you are aiming for. The 5% limits, based on equal protection clause of the US Constitution, is not a target, but simply a suggested outer limit that a state might achieve when taking things such as counties into account.</p> <p>In the 2003 Post-Stephenson 2 plan, 63 of 120 (52.5%) districts had a deviation of greater than 4.5%, and 39 of 120 (32.5%) had a deviation of more than 4.9%!.</p> <p>Instead of the ideal population, the legislature was trying to get the worst possible score that would be accepted. It would be like a student who instead of striving for test scores of a 100 or at least 90s, deliberately tried to score 71 on every test.</p> <p>In 2011, the legislature did somewhat better, but still had 36 of 120 or 30% outside 4.5% deviation. A reasonable, statistical, expectation would be half as many.</p> <p>Whole County Groupings force the deviation one way or another. For example, the 12 Mecklenburg districts will have an average deviation of -3.56%, while the 11 Wake districts will have an average deviation of 3.08%.</p> <p>Under the North Carolina Constitution it is presumed that each representative for a district (whole county grouping) will represent identical numbers of persons. An effort should be made to put this into practice.</p>
3099		Aug 14 2017 10:44AM	Mr. James Riley	<p>Proposed addendum:</p> <p>3. Criteria For Contiguity.</p> <p>North Carolina has a sordid history of employing point contiguity to permit districts to cross each other. The criteria should explicitly state that they shall not be used.</p> <p>Proposed Addendum:</p> <p>"Point contiguity shall not be used in the creation of Whole County Groupings or drawing of districts within Whole County Groupings."</p>
3100		Aug 14 2017 11:24AM	Dr. Jennifer Bremer	<p>1. Could you please confirm the time, date, and locations for the hearings? We have heard rumors that there may be hearings in cities such as Asheville and Wilmington that are not within or near to the "Covington districts." We urge you to hold hearings in cities that are centrally located with regard to the counties that are most directly affected.</p> <p>2. Please restore the "Who Represents Me" maps to their previous uncolored format so that users can see the street detail.</p> <p>3. Please fix the links on this resource page from the Redistricting site. http://www.ncleg.net/GIS/Download/ReferenceDocs/2011/CommitteeDocs/6-15-2011CommitteeMeetingNotebooks.pdf</p> <p>Thanks for your assistance.</p>
3101		Aug 14 2017 11:37AM	Mrs. Jane Rose	<p>I am very disappointed that it isn't an independent group redrawing the lines. Why hire the same one who drew the lines that were deemed unconstitutional? This time it is imperative that we have boundaries that give us competitive elections where the issues can be debated and everyone's votes count.</p>
3102		Aug 14 2017 11:39AM	Ms. Judy Lotas	<p>The #1 priority in our voting democracy is FAIRNESS. This means Non Partisan Redistricting. These partisan guidelines are a wedge pushing us all further and further apart. I'm sad that our Board of Education has been set up as a partisan contest. Why???? we're all people, never mind race, color, gender, political party. Thank you.</p>
3103		Aug 14 2017 12:02PM	Mrs. Brittany Sandefur	<p>My representatives don't know me, my needs, or my community. We want fair redistricting that serves the interest of the state and its citizens. not the interest of powerful individuals.</p>
3104		Aug 14 2017 12:32PM	Ms. Kelly Hofstatter	<p>As a resident of Charlotte NC, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee an electoral process that is fair and open, prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering, and stays in place regardless of the party in power. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a manner that assures that everyone is equally and fairly represented in choosing our representatives. The people must choose who they elect to office as opposed the the representatives choosing their voters.</p> <p>Sincerely, Kelly Hofstatter</p>
3105		Aug 14 2017 2:53PM	Ms. Rev. Lara Musser Gritter	<p>I am a Minister in Greensboro. I am writing in response to the heinous weekend events in Charlottesville. While the world's eyes have been turned toward our neighbors to the north, the truth is, white supremacy and racism impact us every day in North Carolina. I see this as perhaps MOST evident in the gross gerrymandering of districts here in NC. As you all work towards redistricting I exhort you to take seriously the rules of Proposed 9,5,4, and 10. If this state is gerrymandered in 2020 AT ALL, you will be no better than those Nazis this weekend. You have power, in the name of Jesus Christ, I beg you to stand upon what is moral, just, and merciful.</p>

3106		Aug 14 2017 11:23PM	Mrs. Holly Wood	As a lifelong resident of North Carolina, I have never felt that I had less of a voice with my vote. Maps should be drawn without partisan bias. This should be done regardless of which party has a majority. PLEASE put the interests of our state and ALL of its voters first. Because of such gerrymandered districts, extreme members of both parties end up winning primaries and going on to be the representative. To move our state and country forward, like it or not, we need moderation. The overwhelming majority of voters want moderation! The extreme gerrymandering that has happened in recent years has wasted millions of tax payer dollars on court battles. This is money that could actually be helping our schools, roads, law enforcement, etc. Please do what you know in your hearts is the right
3107		Aug 15 2017 9:49AM	Ms. Suzanna Geiser	I would urge the redistricting committee to find a way to ensure that the maps are re-drawn in a nonpartisan manner. The current proposal to provide protection to incumbents is not a nonpartisan solution and should be rejected. Additionally, I fully support legislation that would create a nonpartisan redistricting commission.
3108		Aug 15 2017 10:53AM	Ms. Mary Kaczmarek	We want impartial criteria to be used to redraw districts. Impartial criteria include creating districts that are compact and community-based; that are contiguous; that follow federal law; and that ignore partisan factors like voter registration, voter turnout in past elections, and the results of past elections. The home addresses of incumbent elected officials must not influence the maps. Secondly, we want a transparent process - that means publishing the criteria used to draw the maps and making public comments PUBLIC.
3109		Aug 15 2017 10:59AM	Ms. Sandy Hill	Please do nonpartisan redistricting this time. Forget who the incumbent is, wheter it's a Democrat or Republican. Do this the right way. These court cases are getting embarrassing. Totally nonpartisan, please.
3110		Aug 15 2017 12:06PM	Ms. Jin Adams Parker	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly renresented and lets us choose our renrepresentatives.
3111		Aug 15 2017 2:19PM	Barbara Campbell	As a resident of North Carolina, I have never felt that I had less of a voice with my vote. Maps should be drawn without partisan bias. This should be done regardless of which party has a majority. PLEASE put the interests of our state and ALL of its voters first. Because of such gerrymandered districts, extreme members of both parties end up winning primaries and going on to be the representative. To move our state and country forward, like it or not, we need moderation. The overwhelming majority of voters want moderation! The extreme gerrymandering that has happened in recent years has wasted millions of tax payer dollars on court battles. This is money that could actually be helping our schools, roads, law enforcement, etc. Please do what you know in your hearts is the right thing to do.
3112		Aug 15 2017 3:23PM	Ms. Gloria Gibson	I am very frustrated by the gerrymandering that apparently is designed to suppress the votes of some of our NC citizens and to boost the potential for election of one party over the other. Over the years, both parties have participated in this partisan gerrymandering for party success rather than for ensuring the rights of all citizens to have their votes matter. The overwhelming majority of North Carolinians want to be sure that the system for creating districts is fair and impartial. I implore the members of the General Assembly to work together to design a system for creating districts that is nonpartisan and in the best interest of the common good for All North Carolina citizens, not for one party over the other. Please do the right thing, not the partisan, party thing.
3113		Aug 15 2017 7:35PM	Mrs. jennifer henley	You must redistrict our state in a fair and just way. There is nothing fair in doing less. Put you personal gain aside and be true to your NC constitutrnts.
3114		Aug 15 2017 8:19PM	Mrs. Deborah Steiner	I am concerned that the redistricting that the Legislature is charged to do be done fairly without regard for past voting records or ethnicity. I am counting on you to treat all North Carolina voters with respect and dignity. The money that has had to be spent to correct inequities could have gone to help our schools, roads and other worthwhile projects. Please do the right thing for all of our citizens. Thank you.
3115		Aug 16 2017 10:38AM	Dr. Edward Altherr	Please end allowing politicians (for either party) to organize voting districts. This needs to be done by an unelected, unbiased and independent commission. Raleigh and especially DC are way too partisan, and the continued polarization of the voting districts in our state is making this worse, and not better. It doesn't need to be this way any longer. Disclosure- I'm registered unaffiliated/independent.

3116		Aug 16 2017 1:29PM	Mr. Eric Rice	<p>The continual redrawing of voting districts is an abomination to the election process, and unsurprisingly it always occurs on the GOP's watch. Not only do they seek to redraw district lines to their benefit, but they go further to make it impossible for demographics who traditionally vote against them and for Democrats to reach their polling destination, or in more egregious cases strip their ability to vote entirely. It should be staggeringly obvious every time these lines are redrawn then there's a push to make them permanent--I mean is that not a 500-foot wide red flag to everyone? There seems to be short-term memory issues involving the Constitution, you know, like how amendments are designed to amend?</p> <p>It is bad enough there are underhanded politicians out there supporting such garbage as Kris Kobach's voter intimidation and elimination campaigns, but it's WAY worse when our supposed president is backing him/in his corner. This speaks to the level of corruption we've arrived at and are dealing with on a consistent basis, and it is far past time to do something about it. If we don't put an end to this soon, the precedent and permanence could become a harsh reality...one that we're already contending with whether some folks realize it or not.</p> <p>The voting process is a democratic one, but these ridiculous and egregious acts seek to undermine the fabric of not only democracy, but our society as a whole. It's bad enough we have to contend with so many massive corporations and wealthy donors putting their stamp on day-to-day legislation, but that's living in today's Citizens United debacle...a United States where the elite and powerful decide what's best for THEM while the rest of us foot the bill for such greedy and manipulative actions. I realize this is not about campaign finance reform, but it most assuredly plays it part in these unethical situations of gerrymandering, so I simply cannot let mum be the word on it within this conversation.</p>
3117		Aug 16 2017 2:27PM	Mr. Michael Eisenberg	<p>We're watching and so far don't like what you're doing. Remember the plaintiffs will draw a map too and if the courts don't approve yours they can accept the plaintiffs or call for a master planner to draw one. If that's the case you have no say so. Do the right thing.</p>
3118		Aug 16 2017 4:41PM	Mr. Adrian Monte	<p>Please, for the love of a functioning democracy, put into effect a plan like this one: http://rangevoting.org/GerryExec.html Which utilizes the 'shortest splitline algorithm'.</p> <p>"When Republicans and Democrats control the apparatus of Democracy, they seek only to consolidate power, and the government becomes Tyranny by committee " - me</p>
3119		Aug 16 2017 5:14PM	Mr. Patrick Burch	<p>How can we as voters support a redistricting process that is being controlled and created by the same people who gave us the unconstitutional House/Senate districts in 2011? If the NC General Assembly wants to assure some measure of non-partisanship in the process, the committee doing the work should be made up of equal numbers of both parties and must agree to fix the problem as a group. The idea of allowing senate and house members "pick their own voters" will continue as long as partisanship controls the process.</p>
3120		Aug 16 2017 8:14PM	Mrs. Joy Boothe	<p>Please take action to see that our districts are fairly drawn in nonpartisan way.</p>
3121		Aug 17 2017 11:25AM	Dr. Jennifer Bremer	<p>The rooms for the Guilford and Charlotte hearings are far too small. Surely these CCs have larger rooms.</p> <p>Please also post the counties to be affected, so people know which hearing to go to (e.g., Rockingham to go to the hearing in Jamestown or Hickory).</p> <p>It would be helpful if you would also a list of the districts affected for each location, so voters know whether it affects them. Even if the district boundaries aren't final, the districts to be changed have presumably been identified.</p>
3122		Aug 17 2017 12:39PM	Mrs. Melissa Benfield	<p>Why does my State have to be the poster child for the KKK???? Please stop. Draw the districts fairly and may the best man/woman win!</p>
3123		Aug 17 2017 3:46PM	Laura Arena	<p>I implore both the Senate and House redistricting committees to draw equitable boundaries that allow constituents to fairly elect their representatives. Race must be taken into consider as there is a correlation between race, place, and political affiliation. Gerrymandering to ensure re-election has no place in a true democracy.</p>
3124		Aug 17 2017 3:52PM	Dr. Sherry Shapiro	<p>We need a sound government that balances the extremes and provides efficient and effective policy making for all of the citizens of North Carolina, there a fair voting map. This can only be done through an independent body who can redraw the district voting map. I emlore you to use common sense and fair judgement to make sure that all citizens have a vote that counts.</p>
3125		Aug 17 2017 4:04PM	Bonnie Thompson	<p>I do not think it is fair or desirable to gerrymander in our country . Please do not use this process in our</p> <p>State to create partv advantages.</p>
3126		Aug 17 2017 5:06PM	Mr. Rob Myers	<p>This is the time to establish a non-partisan redistricting process to make elections competitive and representative.</p>

3127		Aug 17 2017 5:36PM	Mr. Ray Grimaila	<p>Fair redistricting should follow these basic principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Race is Key: Map drawers must ensure that it is possible for black voters to elect their candidates of choice, as required by the Voting Rights Act. • “One person, one vote:” Districts must be very equal in population and obey other laws. • Geographic Compactness: Map drawers must create compact districts, without odd tentacles. Districts must not skip over areas or join two areas at just one point. • Count Incarcerated Persons as residents of their pre-incarceration home or family residence for purposes of redistricting. • No Favoritism: Map drawers must not use the addresses of current lawmakers, or the party affiliation or voting history of voters, or other data to help a party or politician. • Respect Communities of Interest: Map drawers must avoid dividing a communities with similar cultural, ethnic and economic interests; a local government district; etc. • Respect County Boundaries: Maps should make every effort to keep counties whole. • Evaluate Fairness: Before it is approved, a map must be evaluated for overall racial bias and partisan competitiveness, using tools recognized by courts to measure fairness.
3128		Aug 17 2017 5:38PM	Ms. Marian Abernathy	<p>I strongly believe that voting districts should be drawn impartially, and by people who don't stand to benefit personally by those who draw them. Voters should select their representatives; representatives should not select their voters. The process as it is happening now, provides no opportunity for review.</p>
3129		Aug 17 2017 5:39PM	Ms. Jeanie Welch	<p>I wish to state support for redistricting that meets the criteria of geographic compactness and equity for all registered voters in North Carolina.</p> <p>I urge the House Select Committee on Redistricting to develop a redistricting plan that would eliminate accusations of gerrymandering for racial purposes and would ensure that districts are as geographically compact as possible and reflect a dedication to effective and equitable representation for all citizens.</p> <p>Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this important issue.</p>
3130		Aug 17 2017 5:44PM	Ms. Elizabeth O'Nan	<p>Next week, the redistricting committee is set to hold public hearings on new legislative maps, but the maps still haven’t been released to the public. With the hearing only five days away and still no sign of the release of the new maps, the public won’t have enough time to review them beforehand.</p> <p>This lack of transparency is not acceptable. It’s become clear that our legislators aren’t taking the opinions of people seriously. Don't let the NC legislature draw our maps again in a way that silences some of us, particularly communities of color. We need a nonpartisan system in place to make sure our district maps are drawn fairly so that everyone is represented equally.</p>
3131		Aug 17 2017 5:46PM	Mrs. Katherine Dreyer	<p>VERY disappointed to have comments on redistricting coming up on August 22 and yet nothing to comment on. This is NOT ENOUGH TIME for us to review and understand the redistricting plans. Really tired of Republican shenanigans regarding redistricting. The courts have made it clear that Republican racism has no legal rights. Exhausted by obvious Republican racism.</p>
3132		Aug 17 2017 5:46PM	Dr. Marilyn Collins	<p>We can't let the NC legislature draw our maps again in a way that silences some of us, particularly communities of color. We need a nonpartisan system in place to make sure our district maps are drawn fairly so that everyone is represented equally.</p>
3133		Aug 17 2017 5:47PM	Mrs. Sharon Cousins	<p>Gerrymandering is just plain WRONG. Our districts need to truly represent the actual population of the state. Gerrymandering puts party above country and undermines the democratic process. It should be banned. It is corruption and it needs to GO!</p>
3134		Aug 17 2017 5:52PM	Mr. John Wiles	<p>We need a nonpartisan system in place to make sure our district maps are drawn fairly so that everyone is represented equally.</p>
3135		Aug 17 2017 5:52PM	Christopher Epps	<p>We deserve a non partisan redistricting so all of our voices are heard. Stop the gerrymandering...: We will vote you out one way or another.</p>
3136		Aug 17 2017 5:52PM	Mrs. Maryann Pitman	<p>The people's representation at every level should reflect the voters' will. This is not true in NC. It must change.</p>
3137		Aug 17 2017 5:55PM	Ms. Melanie Mercer	<p>Time is now to redraw districts per court order.</p>
3138		Aug 17 2017 5:58PM	Ms. Melanie Mercer	<p>We deserve a non partisan redistrict. ALL voters must be heard.</p>
3139		Aug 17 2017 5:59PM	Mr. Stanley Bozarth	<p>It's high time the legislature addressed the gerrymandering in North Carolina. We citizens are well aware of the reasons for your reluctance and why you gerrymandered the state in the first place. Stop dragging your feet and act like decent public servants rather than self-serving politicians.</p>

3140		Aug 17 2017 6:13PM	William Heathcote	<p>As a constituent and a citizen, I want to make it known that the process for drawing new legislative districts has been wholly unacceptable. After the courts ruled that the current districts had to be withdrawn because they had been racially gerrymandered, no steps have been taken to ensure the new districts are drawn using strictly non-partisan methods. Therefore, we the voters have no guarantee that the new maps will be any more fair than the old ones.</p> <p>I submit this comment to express my profound disappointment with this process and to demand that citizens once again be empowered to choose their legislators rather than letting legislators choose their constituents.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
3141		Aug 17 2017 6:31PM	Mr. Richard Pierce	<p>My fellow citizens of North Carolina:</p> <p>When I moved to NC in 1993, NC was a beacon of justice, now we are sliding into a morass of political gunk. One person one vote is a foundation of democracy that goes back to Athens, Greece over 2500 years ago. Think, do you want to be the people to end this just policy?</p>
3142		Aug 17 2017 6:38PM	Mr. David Shaw	<p>Redistricting along racial lines is so unAmerican. We are all created equal. We deserve equal voices. FYI I'm a white independent.</p>
3143		Aug 17 2017 6:47PM	Dr. August De Hertogh	<p>For too long gerrymandering has been a wrongful practice, carried out by both political parties. The gerrymandering carried out by the present party in power has been the most harsh, the most voter suppressive, the most racially directed, and with a frontal attack on our democracy in the Old North State.</p> <p>It is not RIGHT to draw voting district lines to insure victory for a political party. Every registered voter must feel confident that his or her vote counts. When that confidence is destroyed, turn-out at the poll is diminished and democracy dies.</p> <p>It is the responsibility of political leaders to make voting easier for every citizen.</p> <p>It is the responsibility of this Republican House/Senate to give the public the opportunity to review the new lines that have been drawn by a Republican.</p> <p>A non-partisan committee MUST be formed to draw voting district</p>
3144		Aug 17 2017 6:57PM	Mr. Joseph Walls	<p>Please create non-partisan districts for all of North Carolina.</p>
3145		Aug 17 2017 7:11PM	Dr. Paul Brinich	<p>I'm tired of having my vote made irrelevant by gerrymandering. It doesn't matter whether it's the Republican party or the Democratic party -- both have been guilty of this and both have disenfranchised me for years. Please don't accept any redistricting that is designed to make my vote irrelevant</p>
3146		Aug 17 2017 7:13PM	Mary Bowman	<p>I believe that redistricting should be done in a very non-partisan way. It is fair to all Americans to know that their vote will count and that it is being measured in as careful a way as possible to avoid the charge that it is benefiting one or the other party. I am American first and would like my vote to count as an American who cares about honesty, transparency and fairness to ALL Americans. This is supposed to be a DEMOCRACY!</p>
3147		Aug 17 2017 7:23PM	Mrs. Eugenia Goff	<p>Please redistrict according to where a person lives regardless of race. I am embarrassed that North Carolina has a reputation for being racist as the current redistricting indicates.</p>
3148		Aug 17 2017 8:27PM	Mrs. Margaret Sharp	<p>I am angry that you have not released the new maps for the court ordered redistricting. How can we as constituents review the proposed districts without seeing them prior to the public hearings? We have a constitutional right to equal representation in our democracy. All citizens have the right to vote to choose their elected representatives. We need a bipartisan commission to give us fair voting districts.</p>
3149		Aug 17 2017 8:41PM	Dr. Kevin Speight	<p>Where are redistricting meetings and times in my area?</p>
3150		Aug 17 2017 8:44PM	Mr. John Keilman	<p>Time to revert America to its founding principles of fairness and government by for and of the people.</p>
3151		Aug 17 2017 9:05PM	Mr. Matthew Neill	<p>Not releasing the proposed maps with adequate time for public review before the hearings is a good sign that redistricting will not occur honestly. The hearings will be as illegitimate as the maps, I suspect. The public deserves a fair effort and full transparency.</p>
3152		Aug 17 2017 9:30PM	Ms. Ronnie Grabon	<p>A nonpartisan council with equal appointments by both parties is critical to fair elections.</p>
3153		Aug 17 2017 9:51PM	Mr. Thomas Clayton	<p>While I realize this round of redistricting is complete; the only fair, cost effective, and reasonable way to draw both Congressional and Legislative Districts in North Carolina is by establishing a nonpartisan commission.</p> <p>Please consider that option for the future--thanks!</p>
3154		Aug 17 2017 9:52PM	Terry Dawed	<p>I am asking for fair maps that represent both parties. Maps should be as contiguous as possible.</p>
3155		Aug 17 2017 9:53PM	Ms. Joanna Hollingsworth	<p>The lines should be drawn by an independent commission. No more voter suppression.</p>
3156		Aug 17 2017 9:58PM	Dr. Vance Reese	<p>Do the right thing, NC Senators and Representatives: Release the new legislative maps so the public may review them and make timely comments.</p>
3157		Aug 17 2017 10:22PM	Mrs. Barbara Benson	<p>We want fair districts. All eligible citizens have the right to vote for their representatives. The would-be or elected representatives are not supposed to choose their voters or make it hard for citizens to vote. That is not the democratic way.</p>

3158		Aug 17 2017 11:13PM	Ms. Kathryn Britton	There is technology that would enable the state to draw districts without partisan gerrymandering. https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2014/06/03/this-computer-programmer-solved-gerrymandering-in-his-spare-time/?utm_term=.28d1f79846dd Why are we depending on people who all have axes to grind, as has been so clearly indicated?
3159		Aug 17 2017 11:32PM	Ms. Diane Chadwell	I am disappointed that the legislature has not produced possible redistricting information as of today. With Public Hearings set for next week, we should be given more time to evaluate the proposal. This is a very dishonest way to handle the process. I think a non-partisan group should be doing this. You have not demonstrated fairness or respect for NC residents!\
3160		Aug 17 2017 11:32PM	Dr. David Preston	Just because partisan gerrymandering is legal doesn't give it legitimacy. In fact, the Supreme Court is taking this issue up next term. No matter what the Court rules, voting maps must be done in a non-partisan manner. That's democracy
3161		Aug 18 2017 4:46AM	Judith Rinere	So very unprofessional and typical of our Republican legislature to work secretly on redistricting and to deny their electorate adequate time to review their work. There is a backlash sweeping the country and it is calling out all legislatures who imitate the way the White House transacts business. Voters are mad and their wishes will be known in many elections to come. The North Carolina Republic Party is not the party of Lincoln. It is the party of self-interest, of party over state. Shame on you.
3162		Aug 18 2017 5:38AM	Mrs. amy brennan	New maps must be drawn in a fair manner, nonpartisan way. You are subverting democracy, a fair voting system, and spending ridiculous amounts of taxpayer money with spurious lawsuits destined to fail because the actions are in fact unconstitutional. The rampant racism and the extreme efforts used to try to keep yourselves in office at all costs because you fear that you are now ridiculously unpopular and knowingly forcing harmful policies on NC constituents (e.g shielding people who commit vehicular homicide/terrorism by car against protesters? And still on the books after Charlottesville???) will no longer be tolerated by we the voters of NC. We demand that the General Assembly be held accountable to their constituents. If the voting system is seen to be an actual fraud and the legal branch to be powerless or held in contempt by them then the people will eventually force a different manner of choosing our leaders and reform. I'm sure no reasonable person wants a return of the civil unrest of say the 60's. It is bad for business and ordinary people's ability to just live our lives. Let's instead be civilized and for once, do the right thing, instead of taking the action that makes us a running joke on late night television.
3163		Aug 18 2017 6:02AM	Ms. Sharon Behn	It is unacceptable that maps have not been released to the public five days prior to the vote of redistributing. Please don't let our children believe that we live in a non-democratic society where we the people have the right to participate.
3164		Aug 18 2017 7:35AM	Mrs. Kathleen Dusto	Do not be unjust We are pleased the General Assembly has drawn these maps in a colorblind way, with no use of racial data. We believe these maps comply with the Voting Rights Act, as well as all existing and relevant court precedents. These new maps are fair and legal. They follow the letter of the law as understood today. We hope the courts will respects the constitutional role that legislatures have in drafting district lines. The drawing of legislative districts is the responsibility of the elected branches of government. We respectfully request that the courts refrain from changing redistricting law and standards after the lines have been drawn. These districts comply with "one man, one vote" and contain roughly equal population based on the 2010 census. These districts respect the principle of contiguity, with all parts of each district being connected. These new districts are more compact than the current ones. These maps strictly follow the Whole County provision as allowed by law. These maps split fewer precincts: city and town boundaries are respected throughout the maps to the maximum possible extent. These districts respect our community and our shared interests with our neighbors.
3165		Aug 18 2017 8:06AM	Mr. Joshua Hill	New maps should and have been drawn in a color blind manner. Both parties and their "support groups" should respect the new maps and stop wasting tax payer monies by endlessly suing. The courts and both parties should respect the new maps and the NCGAs sovereign right to draw these mans.
3166		Aug 18 2017 8:24AM	Dr. Nels Andeerson	Any attempt to manipulate elections is an attack on the very foundation of our Democracy!
3167		Aug 18 2017 9:27AM	Ms. Elaine Weinmann	It's time to end partisan gerrymandering. It robs n c residents of the power of their individual votes. Level the playing field and make elections more fair !
3168		Aug 18 2017 9:44AM	Jjames Burchett	It would be nice if hearings had been held in WNC so that those in the west could be heard. It is time to allow disinterested third parties to draw the maps on a strictly population based model. For too long both parties have tried to "game" the system by rigging districts to perpetuate their majorities. It is time for this to stop and for the districts to be drawn in a logical way irregardless of race or political party affiliation. Please end the nonsense that promotes division

3169		Aug 18 2017 9:44AM	Ms. Beverly Bland	Please, I beg you, as a school guidance counselor & Christian, will you please make fair redistricting maps? Two wrongs don't make a right - Democrats should NOT have done it either. How is THE BEST WAY to make redistricting maps FAIR FOR all THE PEOPLE in NC? It IS FAIR when citizens have the ability to choose their elected officials - NOT when it is simply the representatives choosing their voters. What would Jesus do?
3170		Aug 18 2017 9:46AM	Ms. Emily Bowen	I find it abominable that maps drawn by my own legislature were deemed "racial gerrymanders." And the same legislative leaders continue to stall and avoid fixing these maps! Our legislature has hired the same consultant who drew the racially gerrymandered maps and has refused to reveal the new maps! Further, the legislature that is making these decisions are even from illegal districts. This does not look like democracy in my mind. I am ashamed to be from North Carolina. I am writing to demand reform. It's not fair for our politicians to draw their own districts (essentially picking their own voters). 80% of NC voters agree with me. The redistricting process should be open and avoid racial or partisan gerrymandering. Having districts that are actually competitive will make legislators more accountable to the folks who elected them! We should research practices used in other states and have a nonpartisan citizen group who puts together our maps.
3171		Aug 18 2017 9:53AM	Charles Talley	What a shame in the Bible belt. North Carolina Legislative process is as fair as North Korea's and it has the same type of dictatorial leadership. Comprehensive and fair redistricting is a must.
3172		Aug 18 2017 10:09AM	Mr. Greg Hamby	Please fully comply with The Supreme Court Order on redistricting the 28 illegal districts that were found to be discriminatory to some voting groups.
3173		Aug 18 2017 10:40AM	Mr. Craig Schaub	I reject the computerized apartheid of our current district maps in our state. Black voters are 50% more likely than whites to live in split precincts. Please stop the insulting sham of a redistricting process and find a fair way to redraw the maps. Hiring the same consultant, not considering race in the redrawing, and considering past election outcomes is not living out the real spirit of the three-judge panels order
3174		Aug 18 2017 11:11AM	Mr. Jody Calhoun	I would like to comment my opposition on the fact that we are allowing the very same people who "attempted" to redraw the map the first time to work and/or have a hand in it's new formation. Clearly that map was purposely gerrymandered and it's a slap in the face to all North Carolinians that our state is allowing those same people have another shot of doing the exact same thing. Fool me one, shame on you. Fool me twice, shame on me.
3175		Aug 18 2017 11:26AM	Mr. Richard Pecha	This tactic of Gerrymandering if unfair to ALL residents of the UNITED states !!!! This act of redistricting is synonymous to VOTER SUPPRESSION and is a sneaky attempt to effect the fair and legality of our AMERICAN rights!
3176		Aug 18 2017 11:38AM	Mr. Mitchell Dwoskin	I hope you will consider that redistricting is free from partisan politics (ignore voter registration data, past election results, incumbent addresses, etc.) and ensure maps are not drawn to unduly favor a particular party, candidate or lawmaker. Additionally, legislative districts should be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • compact • respect communities of interest • be contiguous • comply with the Voting Rights Act to ensure that it's possible for black voters to elect their candidates of choice Redistricting once your party controls the house or senate should not be solely to keep your party in power (this goes for democrats as well as republicans). Do not forget that we live in a democracy, please help
3177		Aug 18 2017 11:38AM	Mrs. Betsy Webster	It is time to replace the unconstitutional raciallyv gerrymandered map drawn in 2011. Don't replace it with a politically gerrymandered map
3178		Aug 18 2017 11:42AM	Mrs. Beth Martin	I implore you to draw fair maps that allow people of all ethnicities to have a fair and equal opportunity to elect the candidate of their choice not the candidate that is slanted in a favorable environment to elect a candidate. I also think the GOP should be ashamed of themselves that they even find themselves in a position to have to do this as a result of their gerrymandering the districts. It's an abomination. It shouldn't have taken a court order to have fair and equal voting districts. Sincerely, Beth Martin
3179		Aug 18 2017 11:48AM	Dr. Faith Crosby	EVERYONE(regardless of their ability to contribute to your reelection campaigns) deserves to have their vote (voice) heard. Fair, non-partisan redistricting does that. If you can only win by gerrymandering, you deserve the blow back you are now getting.
3180		Aug 18 2017 11:50AM	Mr. Marvin Ellis	This redistricting infringes on our constitutional rights for equql protection under the laws.
3181		Aug 18 2017 11:51AM	Ms. Marjorie Zack	Gerrymandering, such as what exists now in NC, is anti-democratic. Legislators in NC are selecting their representatives, Just the opposite of what a "representative " Democracy should be. Please do everything possible to establish a non-partisan process for districting in our state. Iowa provides a very good model to emulate.

3182		Aug 18 2017 12:45PM	Mrs. Tal Lewin Wittle	<p>Dear Honorable Members of the Joint NC House and Senate Redistricting Committee,</p> <p>It is unfortunate that the new voting district maps you are considering are not available for the citizens of NC to evaluate so close to the scheduled public hearings. So, while it is difficult to make specific comments or recommendations on the maps, here are the most pressing general concerns that I am interested in having addressed in the current court-ordered redistricting process:</p> <p>1) The maps should be free from partisan politics: they should ignore voter registration data, past election results, incumbent addresses, etc. and ensure maps are not drawn to unduly favor a particular party, candidate or lawmaker</p> <p>2)The maps should comply with the Voting Rights Act to ensure that it's possible for black and other minority voters to elect their candidates of choice</p> <p>3) The maps should respect communities of interest.</p> <p>4) The maps should be compact and contiguous.</p> <p>Thank you for your diligent attention to the important work of redistricting.</p>
3183		Aug 18 2017 1:19PM	Karen Floyd	<p>I cannot attend the public hearing on Tuesday but would like to make my comments here.</p> <p>The current redistricting process continues to be overly partisan and lack transparency. Maps are being drawn behind closed doors and voters are not being given sufficient time to review proposed maps before scheduled public hearings. New voting maps need to: -- be compact -- respect communities of interest -- be contiguous -- comply with the Voting Rights Act to ensure that it's possible for black voters to elect their candidates of choice -- be free from partisan politics (ignore voter registration data, past election results, incumbent addresses, etc.) and ensure maps are not drawn to unduly favor a particular party, candidate or lawmaker</p>
3184		Aug 18 2017 1:22PM	Dr. Judith Porter	We need maps fair to all not gerrymandered.
3185		Aug 18 2017 1:25PM	Carol Jones	I feel the General Assembly has drawn new maps in a colorblind way. They have followed the letter of the law. New districts are more compact; fewer precincts are split and all parts of each district are connected.
3186		Aug 18 2017 1:33PM	Catherine Stadelman	The overriding principle of redistricting is, and must be, that voters select their representatives. Representatives should not be selecting their voters; this is what leads to unfair gerrymandering and all the lawsuits that ensue. The redistricting process should be fair and impartial, and one that the current party in power would not object to if the other party were in power.
3187		Aug 18 2017 1:51PM	Mrs. Connie Headrick	For the life of me, I do not understand why a showing of the old map & the new map cannot be done in EVERY COUNTY! Why only 5-6 Counties? This STINKS! I live in Wilson County which will be impacted by the Re-districting. Wilson needs to be fixed. There is no reason on Earth why I should not be able to vote with the people 2 houses away but vote with the people on the Northwest part of Durham! Since there has been such political & racial skullduggery done in drawing up the districts there must be a serious demographic study done by the people. And to draw up any map to ensure that incumbents remain is ILLEGAL! But what do you care, with the districts draw so illegally for all this time YOU ALL ARE AN ILLEGAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY! This is all too sickening! North Carolinians will only take so much! We need those maps released & studied in Every County! And if that doesn't work - we need a group of hired Canadians down here to draw up fair maps.
3188		Aug 18 2017 2:06PM	Sean Pratt	<p>It is disappointing that the committee decided to use political preference as a factor in making these maps. There shouldn't be a political bias that benefits any particular side disproportionately when making district maps. This is one of the things that led us to so many years in court for unconstitutional maps.</p> <p>The redistricting should be nonpartisan. We should be able to see these maps before we are asked for input. We've known they had to be redrawn for many months, so there is not reason we shouldn't have already been able to look at the maps and decide on if they are drawn in deceitful ways or not. Make this process open and transparent. Make it fair.</p>
3189		Aug 18 2017 3:04PM	Mrs. Lynn Chapin	Gerrymandering is illegal, as all representatives at the North Carolina legislature know. BUt you continue to try to make it so that Republicans get the majority of the votes. MAN UP to what you are supposed to do and draw simple lines like it used to be and that is fair for all involved.
3190		Aug 18 2017 3:22PM	Suzanne Forbes	In order to achieve nonpartisan redistricting boundary lines I propose using scientific factors already in place: latitude and longitude lines to the 10th degree, I.e. 87.5, 37.5. No arguments And easy to administer.
3191		Aug 18 2017 3:32PM	Mr. Roger Williams	New redistricting lines must be fair at last giving equal importance to all voters. Do the right thing, please!

3192		Aug 18 2017 3:45PM	Ms. Ida Leonard	<p>We live in very dangerous times. NOW is NOT the time to let this spill into our glorious state. Gerrymandering is just another word for profiling against minorities and taking the legitimate vote away from others.</p> <p>Voter suppression--past and present--is a shameful Jim Crow tactic that fuels the dangerous rise in white supremacy and racial injustice. If redistricting relegates my vote to meaningless, I have no voice. I am mute and I don't count because the gerrymanderers have cheated me.</p> <p>I would like to see every representative and Senator in the General Assembly fairly elected from districts designed by population data, BLIND to party preference or skin color. Isn't that the America you thought you were born into? It was where I was born, but that, too, may be coming to an end if you allow the manipulation of districts in order to support only YOUR politics.</p>
3193		Aug 18 2017 4:26PM	Mrs. Elizabeth Anne Eitelman	It is time for non-partisan redistricting, each person's vote needs to count equally. We need to end gerrymandering by both parties.
3194		Aug 18 2017 4:30PM	Ms. Kathleen Monahan	<p>Voting districts need to be redistricted so that they are compact, contiguous, comply with the Voting Rights Act and free from partisan politics. Maps should never be redrawn so as to favor a political party, candidate or representative from either party. The only way we can have a true democracy in NC is if each citizen has an equal right to vote. Currently our districts give more weight to some people's voices to others, which is against the very cornerstone of democracy.</p> <p>If the NCGA cannot draw a map which complies with these points, they should appoint an independent commission who will draw these districts for all future elections, regardless of which party currently holds power. Voting districts should only change to accommodate population, not partisanship.</p>
3195		Aug 18 2017 5:51PM	Mr. David Gilmour	<p>Please stop gerrymandering and allow districts to be drawn by a nonpartisan organization using objective mathematical means. Gerrymandered districts undermine the basic functioning of our democracy and are harmful to all citizens.</p>
3196		Aug 18 2017 7:04PM	Mrs. Dacia Cress	Courts (and the nation) require redistricting of our illegally and criminally gerrymandered districts. Your game is up and you will not get away with voter suppression any longer. The nation and NC citizens are watching and we will hold you accountable. You DO NOT legally represent the majority of NC citizens because of this system of voter suppression. Let voters choose their representatives, NOT reps choosing voters. That is not how democracy works. Redistricting needs to be done by a neutral third party organization, NOT the same biased guy who draw up the last districts. He has proven himself vastly unworthy.
3197		Aug 18 2017 7:21PM	Mr. William Luffman	I live in the extreme eastern part of Wilkes County just yards from Surry. I am much closer to the county seats of Surry, Yadkin or Alleghany than I am to Wilkes. People in this area have a lot in common with each other but not so much with central, northern and western Wilkes or Ashe County. We already pretty much live in a land of taxation without representation in regard to county matters we need and deserve a voice at the state level. Sen. Randleman does have great constituent service skills and has been responsive. But it's a waste of time to contact the current or past house representatives, they don't even acknowledge those they have pledged to serve. Wilkes County NEEDS to be separated during redistricting. People living in the East Wilkes School District needs to be part of a district including all or most of Surry, Southern Allegheny and West Yadkin Counties
3198		Aug 18 2017 8:41PM	Mrs. Hazel Poolos	I want fair non racial, non partisan districts. No favoring either party.
3199		Aug 18 2017 10:10PM	Kathryn Wouk	I am calling on NC legislators to replace the current consultant, Thomas Hofeller, who drew the existing unconstitutional maps and cannot be trusted to draw fairer maps in the future. Additionally, NC lawmakers used unlawful gerrymandering to win elections in 2012, 2014, and 2016, and are therefore suspect in passing appropriate legislative maps in the future that are not designed purely to serve their own interests. A new poll indicates that 4/5 NC voters don't think it's fair for politicians to be drawing their own legislative maps. I call on the legislators to appoint an independent body with engagement from community members to design and approve of future legislative maps.
3200		Aug 18 2017 10:21PM	Abbygale Huffman	Voting Districts should be fair to All Citizens!
3201		Aug 18 2017 10:35PM	Dr. Louis Gadol	Please make all votes count equally across the board, including those of voters who are not registered as Republicans or Democrats. They should be completely fair.
3202		Aug 18 2017 11:32PM	Mr. Chris Berg	I am startled to be unable to find draft redistricting maps at this time. I would appreciate being notified when these may be available. Chris Berg
3203		Aug 19 2017 8:49AM	Ms. Linda rudick	A non-partisan committee is the preferred, suggested, and required composition for fair, non-biased districts. Do not hire the announced outside company previously
3204		Aug 19 2017 8:53AM	Mr. Douglas Neely	<p>The perception that voting districts are fair and equitable may prove to be the most critical issue to the ongoing success of our "democracy."</p> <p>As the currently elected officials, it is up to you lead us back to a functioning Democracy and that starts with establishing confidence in the voting system.</p>
3205		Aug 19 2017 10:02AM	Mr. Thomas Orth	<p>I would like a "side-by-side" illustration of the Legislative Maps-the one that was ruled Unconstitutional by the Supreme Court and the new proposed map</p>

3206		Aug 19 2017 10:18AM	Ms. Laurel Appleton	Districting should be based on impartial algorithms not based on the whims of whatever political party is in power. You represent the people and you take away their voice when you create districts to benefit your political party.
3207		Aug 19 2017 10:23AM	Mrs. Barbara Coulson	<p>The redistricting that was conducted in 2011 produced district lines that bob and weave through certain neighborhoods in many areas of our State. For example, if current elected officials are not sharing our values for clean air and water, then we have the right to support a candidate who does. If they do not share our concern for a just economic structure for all we should be able to choose which candidate supports our values there as well. If Gerrymandered voting maps lead to electoral contests that are one-sided they strip away our ability to elect people who share our values. We should have the ability to choose to vote for those who are endorsing policies that benefit the whole state, not just certain special interest groups.</p> <p>Voting should not equal control. This is an issue of fairness as well as fair play. Elected officials who supported an independent redistricting when they were in the minority should now support it when in the majority. Hypocrisy is unattractive in an elected official.</p> <p>We need true representation, and that starts with maps that are fair.</p>
3208		Aug 19 2017 10:29AM	Dr. Donna Newman	A successful society needs ALL voices, not just a selected few that drown out the rest. Many people of religious background have been told since their youth that to listen to words that would have them compromise their beliefs allows evil to creep in. Perhaps this is so in Religion. But in Politics and in a society that works, we must listen to and COOPERATE with each other. To do so does not require that anyone compromise their own beliefs, just that they not impose these beliefs on others by fiat. Unfair districting imposes the beliefs of a minority on the lives of others who have a different outlook and a different set of opinions. Open debate and discussion among people from ALL sides about important matters that affect us all should be a priority, and unfair districting by one side defeats our chances of reaching solutions that benefit us all.
3209		Aug 19 2017 10:31AM	Ms. Chantel Morey	<p>North Carolinians are tired of gerrymandering and we want to see the maps so that objective non-partisan groups can analyze and evaluate them before the maps are put into use. Every North Carolinian’s vote should count!</p> <p>(1) A new poll shows that four out of five North Carolina voters (80%) say it’s not fair for politicians to draw their own districts. That includes 85% of Democrats, 74% of Republicans, 80% of independents—as well as 70% of Trump supporters and 80% of African Americans.</p> <p>(2) The redistricting process must be open, avoid racial or partisan gerrymandering, and allow voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around.</p> <p>(3) We should research the practices used in other states and adopt principles that encourage deep community involvement. Fair redistricting should follow these basic principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Race is Key: Map drawers must ensure that it is possible for black voters to elect their candidates of choice, as required by the Voting Rights Act. • “One person, one vote:” Districts must be very equal in population and obey other laws. • Geographic Compactness: Map drawers must create compact districts, without odd tentacles. Districts must not skip over areas or join two areas at just one point. • Count Incarcerated Persons as residents of their pre---incarceration home or family residence for purposes of redistricting. • No Favoritism: Map drawers must not use the addresses of current lawmakers, or the party affiliation or voting history of voters, or other data to help a party or politician. • Respect Communities of Interest: Map drawers must avoid dividing a communities with similar cultural, ethnic and economic interests; a local government district; etc. • Respect County Boundaries: Maps should make every effort to keep counties whole. • Evaluate Fairness: Before it is approved, a map must be evaluated for overall racial bias and partisan competitiveness, using tools recognized by courts to
3210		Aug 19 2017 10:58AM	Ms. Carolina Candelaria	Respectfully and absolutely demand immediate passage of the nonpartisan redistricting bills now stymied in our legislature: HB 200, and SB 209. It is time to stop wasting the taxpayers money in constant legal battles over gerrymandering for racial and partisan purposes on BOTH sides of the aisle. Its time to get things right. Your constituents appreciate those of you on both sides of the aisle who stand for fairness, and will remember you on election day. Please bar Tom Hofeller from involvement, as his maps would engender even more legal scrutiny.
3211		Aug 19 2017 11:05AM	Dr. Jill Slee	I am concerned that redistricting maps have not yet been submitted for public review in enough time before the public meetings. I am concerned that the same partisan folks in power are doing the redistricting, which will continue to lead the public to not trust the voting process. I am aware of the existence of a nonpartisan electronic program that can draw district lines without fear of partisanship politics influencing the voting results. WHY don’t you use it? We need to be able to trust that WE are the ones to elect our representatives in a fair and transparent process.

3212		Aug 19 2017 11:18AM	Mrs. jennifer miller	I live in Davidson County, in the Emmons township. Last presidential election. I drove my brother who lives in an Assisted Living community in Denton, NC. He has voted in every election for the past 50 years, at the same location. The Denton Fire Department. This past election. They would not allow him to vote at the Denton Fire Department, where he has always voted, but sent us to another fire department, 12 miles away. Made him sit at a table, vote on a paper ballot, put it into a envelop and hand it back at the desk. I thought that was odd, but complied. He got in the mail a few months after the election, his vote didn't count, because he put down the wrong, social security number. False! it was the correct social security number, so I am letting you know, about the tampering. Please look more closely at situations like this. Thank You
3213		Aug 19 2017 11:24AM	Ms. Maria-Cristina Moreno	<p>There is an alternative to partisan gerrymandering in North Carolina. I support nonpartisan redistricting that will establish an equitable system for all of us North Carolina voters to elect our representatives."</p> <p>Although I am unable to be present at this meeting today, I thank you for the opportunity to add my voice to all North Carolina voters and elected representatives who have called on our State lawmakers to put in place a nonpartisan system for redrawing North Carolina's congressional and legislative districts.</p> <p>As Mayor Vaughn of Greensboro has eloquently expressed: "For far too long, both parties have engaged in gerrymandering, which has divided our communities and deprived voters of a choice and a voice in our elections... "It's time for the legislature to end gerrymandering and adopt a fair system for drawing our state's voting maps."</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Cristina Moreno, Williamston</p>
3214		Aug 19 2017 11:25AM	Mrs. Kathryn P.	Redistricting should be done on population densities and matgmatically. The fact that the state is continually redistricting due to outright bigotry is a national disgrace and a waste of taxpayer dollars. Do it right this time so my money is wasted on this mess one more time.
3215		Aug 19 2017 11:28AM	Ms. Ann Marie Dunn	<p>I am forced to give you a written comment because I can not get to any of the meetings scheduled for this.</p> <p>The Districting Maps, as written, are wrong. They deny the people the right to their vote. These maps are designed to make sure Republicans stay in office regardless of the opinions of the voters. This has been declared illegal and it has to be corrected. The government is supposed to represent all the citizens not just the privileged WASPs.</p> <p>Let me stress here, I am white, but I am not blind to the privilege my race has given me. We, the White majority have to acknowledge that we are not the only people in this country. A country that we tore away from the Native people in the first place. A country that was built, as much by the Black and Asian and Latino people, as the White people.</p> <p>These maps have to be rewritten fairly for all the citizens of the state. There is no other option.</p> <p>Thank you for your time. Ann Marie Dunn.</p>
3216		Aug 19 2017 12:19PM	Mrs. Janice McMurry	Please don't draw our maps again in a way that silences some of us, particularly communities of color. We need a nonpartisan system in place to make sure our district maps are drawn fairly so that everyone is represented equally. Thank you.
3217		Aug 19 2017 12:27PM	Ms. Kelly Prelipp	I would urge the state legislature to redraw district maps with geographic and community boundaries being the guiding factor rather than the racially (and politically) gerrymandered legislative districts that exist now. I urge lawmakers to make the redrawing an open process, allowing the public to see the maps so we citizens can make informed public comment. New maps should feature compact geographic districts, keeping communities (and counties, if feasible) whole, and should uphold the principles of fairness and "one person, one vote." By doing so, North Carolina can end the racial gerrymandering and political disenfranchisement that currently plagues our state .
3218		Aug 19 2017 1:37PM	Mr. Jim Smith	I strongly urge you to use a non-partisan process to draw the new districts - e.g., to use the committee of former Supreme Court Justices who drew maps recently. The use of maps drawn by the same person who drew the maps declared in-constitutional would be a travesty, and invite the court to reject the maps and draw them themselves.

3219		Aug 19 2017 2:06PM	Ms. Carol Hay	<p>The overriding principle of drawing voting districts should be that voters of a self-defined municipality should be able to select their representatives in order to advance the voters’ best interests. Lawmakers must be prevented from choosing their own voters. The result of well-drawn districts is representation that, taken statewide, roughly reflects the distribution of voters by party. North Carolina is truly a purple state that sometimes swings one way and sometimes the other. Our statewide election outcomes should therefore be usually somewhat unpredictable. Current districts guarantee that the Republican party will overwhelmingly control the state for the foreseeable future. What is the point in the rest of us bothering to vote? But perhaps that has been the intention. Drawing voting districts should be done by an impartial team of people working with proven impartial software that will keep communities intact, consider that Black voters must get fair representation, and result in fairly won elections with believable results. Never again should one party be allowed to choose their own voters to preserve party dominance.</p> <p>If power corrupts, and absolute power corrupts absolutely, then the districts we have now guarantee a corrupt government. Our citizens must recapture the ability to vote out of office representatives that do not look out for the interests of all North Carolina voters.</p>
3220		Aug 19 2017 3:10PM	Richard Wasch	<p>This isn’t complicated. Gerrymandering is wrong. It has always been wrong regardless of which party is in power. Stop looking for a perfect solution. Stop justifying Gerrymandering by saying “you did it when you were in power”. Power will shift. Wrong is wrong. Pass HB200.</p>
3221		Aug 19 2017 3:26PM	Dr. Susan Lyons	<p>The legislature's attempt at redistricting is a sham. The legislature is using the same consultant who drew the original, illegal racially gerrymandered maps and are drawing the maps to give Republicans an advantage. Furthermore, because these current maps are illegal, the current legislature, which was elected based on the current maps, is illegitimate. This illegal, illegitimate legislature should not be in charge of redrawing the maps. If we are to have maps that truly represent the citizens of North Carolina, and that are fair and ethical, we need maps that are not gerrymandered. Racial gerrymandering is illegal and political gerrymandering is unethical and undermines the will of citizens and the entire democratic system. We need maps that follow these guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that it is possible for black votes to elect their candidates of choice - Districts are equal in population size and ensure that each vote represents one person - Districts are compact - Incarcerated people are considered residents of their pre-incarcerated home or family residence - Maps do not use previous voting history to help a party or politician become re-elected - Communities with similar cultural and ethnic backgrounds are not split - Counties are kept whole - Maps are evaluated for racial bias and partisan competitiveness
3222		Aug 19 2017 4:49PM	Jacqueline Brown	<p>NC needs independent redistricting. Politicians simply cannot be trusted with this much power.</p>
3223		Aug 19 2017 7:44PM	Dr. Ernest Craige	<p>I believe that each person should be properly represented by districts that are nonpartisan. The earlier maps are absurdly unjust.</p>
3224		Aug 19 2017 10:35PM	Ms. Kathryn Gadson	<p>Please rescind all recent gerrymandering laws that restricts voting of some citizens in certain districts, this is unlawful and unconstitutional.</p>
3225		Aug 20 2017 1:06AM	Mr. David Dietz	<p>End this gerrymandering NOW. If the new districts aren't fair there will be further lawsuits which will only waste more taxpayer money.</p>
3226		Aug 20 2017 9:56AM	Ms. Ann Cowden	<p>All NC citizens have a right to fair districting - not one that is biased in any way. Do our senators and congressmen really represent us? Do they believe that what they've done by way of racially biased districting is honorable?</p>
3227		Aug 20 2017 10:31AM	Mr. Francis Ferrell	<p>These maps were drawn using the same consultants and software that the Republican legislature used to draw the maps deemed unconstitutional by the US Supreme Court. The Republican legislature has used every tool in their belt to reduce public scrutiny and comment on their newly proposed maps. This is completely unacceptable. The only solution to end the unjust practice of gerrymandering districts is to appoint a non-partisan special commission to draw North Carolina's legislative maps.</p>
3228		Aug 20 2017 10:56AM	Ms. Alexis Poss	<p>Although I am unable to attend the public meeting on Tuesday, I would like to express that I am watching the redistricting issue closely as I feel this is of extreme importance to the functioning of our democracy. Please do everything you can to make it fair for all citizens. Thank you.</p>
3229		Aug 20 2017 11:06AM	Ms. Ann Early	<p>In 2012, Democrats won 51% of the popular vote but Republicans got two-thirds of the GA seats anyway. Therefore, the legislature does not proportionally reflect the will of the people. This has harmed our state and its reputation. It is undemocratic. Legislative districts must be redrawn so that they are compact, allow for a representative in each district who can truly represent the people who live there, respect the Voting Rights Act, and don't meander all over the state in order to put Democrats into just three or four districts. They must be redrawn in a non-partisan manner or we do not have a democracy.</p>

3230		Aug 20 2017 11:37AM	Ms. Christina Pelech	Redistricting should be done by an impartial group, not by the same people who did it do poorly the first time.
3231		Aug 20 2017 12:03PM	Dr. Josette Maxwell	It is disgraceful that the Republicans in NC unconstitutionally redrew district maps to ensure they would control the Legislature ant that the Courts have allowed them to continue their unconstitutional legislature this long. We DEMAND that a proper, fair and equality based map be drawn by the Court NOW and that the Court require elections BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR.
3232		Aug 20 2017 12:19PM	Mrs. Susan Yaggy	Dear General Assembly Leaders, I support fair districting, without racial or political gerrymandering. House and Senate districts should be drawn without dividing communities, respect county lines as much as possible, and follow the tenet of the Voting Rights Act to ensure African-American voters can elect their candidates of choice. I volunteer to help eligible NC citizens register to vote, and have been dismayed by the confusion and fear created by racial and political gerrymandering intended to deny all NC voters the ability to pick their legislators. Drawing these maps in secret--again--is just plain wrong. Revealing these maps just before the one day of public hearings without the background data or time to allow the public to analyze their impact is shameful. I urge you to listen to North Carolinians across the political spectrum who want fair, impartial redistricting and an end to gerrymandering.
3233		Aug 20 2017 12:21PM	Ms. Mary DeStasio	It is imperative to convince the people of North Carolina that you want to be fair to all to show your plans for new maps before the hearings begin. Stop trying to control what happens to the people of NC. You are sunnosed to renresent us - not control us.
3234		Aug 20 2017 12:43PM	Mindy Bohlen-Admire	Let's share the proposed maps to everyone, well in advance of voting. This way there will be time for thoughtful, contemplation and analysis. We need a nonpartisan system in place to make sure our district maps are drawn fairly so that everyone is represented equally. Let's do the best for the citizens of NC. thank you- (Mindy) Lisa
3235		Aug 20 2017 12:51PM	Ms. Dara Finkelstein	North Carolina voters deserve an impartial, nonpartisan redistricting process - one that creates maps without regard to race or partisan information. I want redistricting reform that will result in a true democracv.
3236		Aug 20 2017 12:52PM	Mr. Jason Henkel	As a white, evangelical Christian, heterosexual, married male I feel an obligation to comment here and advocate for fair redistricting that avoids racial and partisan gerrymandering. It insults me to watch the Republican party that I grew up supporting achieve power in our state though such devious and racist means (I am now independent).
3237		Aug 20 2017 12:53PM	Mr. Alan Finkelstein	It's time to end gerrymandering. North Carolina voters deserve an impartial, nonpartisan redistricting process - one that creates maps without regard to race or partisan information.
3238		Aug 20 2017 12:54PM	Ms. Margaret Israelson	Put an end to gerrymandering! North Carolina voters deserve an impartial, nonpartisan redistricting process - one that creates maps without regard to race or partisan information.
3239		Aug 20 2017 1:10PM	Mr. xandy smith	the re drawn map is just as unacceptable and illegal as the previous, this is a travesty and a betrayal of the people of North Carolina. Fix it
3240		Aug 20 2017 2:10PM	Mr. John McClain	I am tired of gerrymandering and the politicians who practice it. I am one of the four out of five North Carolina voters (80%) that say it's not fair for politicians to draw their own districts. The redistricting process must be open, avoid racial or partisan gerrymandering, and allow voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around
3241		Aug 20 2017 2:59PM	Dr. Sam Anderson	Please make sure that we get compact districts that keep communities together and are not based on voter registration data, past election results, and any incumbent addresses. Please make our maps an example to other states on how to remove gerrymandering.
3242		Aug 20 2017 2:59PM	Rebecca LaMaire	I encourage NC lawmakers to create just maps that accurately represent the population that lives in NC. It's embarrassing that the Supreme Court had to rule on our horribly racially gerrymandered districts for this change to happen. NC is a purple state whether the NC GOP wants it to be or not. Any districts you draw should reflect this reality or should be seen for what they are--an illegal power grab aimed at disenfranching black North Carolinians and perpetuating white supremacy. We are paying attention and we will hold you accountable
3243		Aug 20 2017 3:02PM	Ms. Wynn Wagenseil	As a registered voter in the Grissettown Precinct of Brunswick County, NC I am requesting that the NC House and Senate pass a bill to legislate a fair redistricting process in NC. At a time when our country is deeply divided, bipartisan measures must be taken to strengthen our democracy and ensure that every vote counts. It is especially troubling that at a time when racial conflict is witnessed throughout the nation that the US Supreme Court determined that "28 North Carolina legislative districts constituted illegal racial gerrymanders that diluted the overall impact of black voters." House Bill 200 and Senate Bill 209 provide a solution to gerrymandering, an abuse of the system that both Democrats & Republicans have resorted to in order to stay in power. At a time when the political parties are having extreme difficulty working together, passage of a redistricting bill will be the first step toward creating a productive atmosphere, which will enable the members of the NC General Assembly to improve the lives of all residents of our state and to make democracy a reality for all of the people of NC.

3244		Aug 20 2017 3:29PM	Mr. Culley Holderfield	<p>It doesn't appear that the proposed districts adhere to the spirit of the Federal ruling to redraw certain districts. It seems the legislature is more interested in advantaging the Republican party than securing fair representation for the people of North Carolina.</p> <p>Legislative districts should be drawn by a non-partisan panel appointed by the judiciary, based purely on population with the goal of one person, one vote. Professional ballplayers aren't allowed to referee their own games, and representatives should not be able to create their own districts.</p>
3245		Aug 20 2017 3:43PM	Dr. Cheryl Stallings	<p>I believe that the drawing of North Carolina's voting maps should be free from partisan politics. Thus, I believe an independent, nonpartisan group should draw our state's voting maps. The drawing of the current maps lacks transparency, with maps being drawn by a few behind closed doors. This does not reflect a fair, democratic process. The people of North Carolina deserve fairly and equitably drawn voting maps by an independent, nonpartisan group.</p>
3246		Aug 20 2017 3:45PM	Mrs. Lisa LaFountain	<p>Please let our districts actually be representative those whose live in the districts. End the gerrymandering that has, for too long, caused North Carolina voters' voices to remain unheard. Let's move towards a fair North Carolina, where every voice is heard no matter social status, race, creed or political leaning.</p>
3247		Aug 20 2017 3:48PM	Mrs. Anne Whipple	<p>I believe the newly re-drawn legislative maps are fair with no regard to RACE. They are in compliance with the Voting Rights Act. Please vote to approve the 2017 House Redistricting Plan.</p>
3248		Aug 20 2017 4:19PM	Christopher Wengert-Ramos	<p>I believe voting maps should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be compact • respect communities of interest • be contiguous • comply with the Voting Rights Act to ensure that it's possible for black voters to elect their candidates of choice • be free from partisan politics (ignore voter registration data, past election results, incumbent addresses, etc.) and ensure maps are not drawn to unduly favor a particular party, candidate or lawmaker <p>The current redistricting process continues to be overly partisan and lack transparency. Maps are being drawn behind closed doors and voters are not being given sufficient time to review proposed maps before scheduled public hearings.</p> <p>Thank you</p> <p>Christopher Wengert-Ramos</p>
3249		Aug 20 2017 4:24PM	Ms. Deirdre Barlaz	<p>I'm upset that there wasn't sufficient notice before this hearing for me to review the proposed maps and attend. The current redistricting process continues to be overly partisan and lack transparency. We need a nonpartisan redistricting process to end gerrymandering.</p> <p>Sincerely, voter Deirdre Barlaz in Raleigh</p>
3250		Aug 20 2017 4:31PM	Carolyn Hunt	<p>While I cannot be present on Tuesday, I want to declare my support to a more fair redistricting and an end to gerrymandering!</p>
3251		Aug 20 2017 5:10PM	Ms. Pamela Herbert	<p>Gerrymandering is bad for everyone. It's a system put in place by the party in power to keep them in power and when the balance shifts the process starts again. It's undemocratic and a huge waste of resources. Racial gerrymandering, which is the reason we are here today, smacks of white supremacy and the lawless disregard for racial equality.</p> <p>The only way to stop this madness is to construct districts based EXCLUSIVELY on population, regardless of who the population consists of. That is how democracy works - 1 person/1 vote and the party with the most appealing platform will come out the winner and serve the people per their wishes. That's democracy. Please uphold democracy as you redraw these lines.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Pamela Herbert Durham</p>
3252		Aug 20 2017 5:14PM	Joan Walsh	<p>Gerrymandering must end. We need a fair and independent commission to draw NC's new districts, not a Republican-majority committee that ignores its Democratic members. I saw this happening in Raleigh on August 10. We don't need more sly attempts to try to fool the courts into thinking the NCGA is complying with their judgment, when really it's just more of the same shenanigans. Only a fair and politically impartial commission can do this job as it needs to be done.</p>
3253		Aug 20 2017 5:47PM	Mr. Zygmund Furmaniuk	<p>Folks, it is unbelievable to me that the proposal for new district boundaries has not been made public. I understand your motivations to gerrymander the entire state so as many white old guys as possible can be elected -- but that really isn't in the interest of anyone except big industries and aforementioned white old guys, is it? Why don't you guys try something radical for once like representing the entire public and working for the common good?</p>
3254		Aug 20 2017 6:05PM	Anne Martinelli	<p>The district lines need to be redrawn. There should be standardized size and shape of a district. This would reduce biases.</p>
3255		Aug 20 2017 6:38PM	Dr. Margie Sved	<p>In this day and age of computers, a non-partisan group should be able to create THE FAIREST redistricting possible, not slanted towards Republicans or Democrats, but that will truly reflect the composition of the state.</p>

3256		Aug 20 2017 7:25PM	Ms. Sarah Denes	I am very displeased that our lawmakers, who purport to represent us, have scheduled this redistricting meeting at 3 p.m. solely on a Tuesday, the exact time when many parents must receive their children from school. Other people are working. If the NCGA were truly interesting in our comments, they would make sure to have several available times for our comments or at the least not exactly at the moment when people need to get their children. Furthermore, what exactly should the public comment on, when the completed maps have not been released? This is Kafkan in its bureaucratic evils.
3257		Aug 20 2017 7:44PM	Ms. Deborah Harrs Ivery	I am disappointed in the direction taken by the representatives elected to serve the people.
3258		Aug 20 2017 7:56PM	Mrs. Dianna Bingle	To speak at public hearing.
3259		Aug 20 2017 8:02PM	Laura Lipps	Maps should be drawn by a non-partisan staff and then submitted to the legislature for a vote, with independent judicial review. Redistricting should be based on clear, measurable, and appropriate criteria including population, equality, contiguity, unity of counties & cities, and compactness. New maps should not be approved until lawmakers' and independent evaluations have the chance to be conducted, based on demographic and geographic data. The public release of this data, and transparent evaluation, should be completed as soon as possible to achieve a fair result in fall of 2017.
3260		Aug 20 2017 8:22PM	Ms. Jennifer Spencer	I am concerned about several aspects of the current redistricting process. The selection of Thomas Hofeller to lead the redistricting is a poor sign given his work in the previous districting-process which was declared unconstitutional. I am deeply concerned about the partisan nature of this effort and that racially biased districting will continue, causing further disenfranchisement of our citizens. I encourage the NCGA to seek for an independent voice to lead this and all future redistricting efforts and to make the redistricting process open and inclusive of all North Carolinians.
3261		Aug 20 2017 8:34PM	Mr. Patrick Hennessey	Are there any plans in place to ensure that the redistricting that occurs after the 2020 census doesn't take more than 6 years? It does seem to defeat the purpose of the 10-year redistricting cycle. Going forward it might make sense to have lawyers look at these proposals to ensure that they are legal.
3262		Aug 20 2017 8:35PM	Judy Peel	As an American, we expect that elected officials will listen to the voices and concerns of their constituents. Due gerrymandering in NC, I do not feel heard or represented. This is not Democracy! I call for fairly drawn maps and not maps that guaranteed the outcome for one party or the other. Gerrymandering is unfair to all citizens. Maps must be drawn by a nonpartisan group. Thank you, Judy Peel.
3263		Aug 20 2017 10:09PM	Ms. Karin Hougaard	As I understand it the redistricting plans which the General Assembly created were illegal because they were racially gerrymandered and were intended to violate the political presence and the participation of racial minorities. New FAIR boundaries must be drawn. Thank you.
3264		Aug 21 2017 6:11AM	Valarie Ward	I stand with Democracy NC in declaring that "the redistricting process must be open, avoid racial or partisan gerrymandering, and allow voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around." You MUST allow the public to comment on your redrawn maps to ensure they are fair.
3265		Aug 21 2017 6:18AM	Mrs. Christine Barboriak	I don't trust a gerrymandered legislature to draw up new districts. I demand a non-partisan, impartial panel be designated to draw up geographically compact districts of equal population size with no preference on political party. Consider the following. Thank you. articles/nonpartisan-redistricting-panel-reveals-unofficial-nc-congressional-voting-map
3266		Aug 21 2017 6:32AM	Ms. Emily Reeve	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.
3267		Aug 21 2017 6:55AM	Andrea Cash	We need fair maps drawn by an impartial third party. This seems like a no brainer! What we want as North Carolinians is simple: for voters to choose their representatives, instead of politicians choosing their voters. I want fair, competitive maps that elect candidates who are responsive to the people that live in their districts and no more partisan maps.
3268		Aug 21 2017 7:12AM	Chris Weaver	I urge you to fight for the best maps possible and not to fret lawsuits. I see no way a grouping of Durham with Person Co and Granville can be done w/o cutting up portions of Durham... overriding one of the requirements. If the rural counties are to be drug down competitively by chaining us to urban hubs then you should cut Orange County in half back to the old 6th congressional district lines. This would give Northern Orange a chance for Republican representation on a state level and give the rural districts of Person and Granville a chance at a balance with Urban Durham.... This for both chambers. Do not go wobbly and give away our super majority no matter what you do. It will not fare well for those who remain, even with the detracting antics of the left factored in....

3269		Aug 21 2017 8:04AM	Mrs. Sally Mann	Columbus County does not need to be divided or partially represented by Pender County!!!
3270		Aug 21 2017 8:46AM	Mrs. Lisa Clark	My family and I have chosen to move back to my husband's hometown of Whiteville to start and raise our family. We have certainly seen a lot of changes in the 16 years since we moved. We moved from Clayton and while we understand there may have been more to offer our family in that geographic area -the slower pace is what we wanted with more time spent with our children that are now 14 and 12 is important. We understood that there could be a tradeoff but our area was harshly affected by the downturn in the economy in 2007 and we have not been able to recover. While the stakeholders in our area have worked to bring industry back-it is my understanding that we are up against all of the areas that are similar in size and vying for the same businesses. We need to keep our county intact as a whole because we understand it will get increasing difficult due to population moving the redistricting in the future. Give us a chance-keep Columbus County together as a whole! Thank you.
3271		Aug 21 2017 9:06AM	Kaye Pope	Please DO NOT divide Columbus County with redistricting plan.
3272		Aug 21 2017 9:19AM	Dr. Karen Ray	Yes! Compact, cohesive, TRANSPARENT. Then the rest will follow. (Not so sure about communities of interest. That could work several ways.)
3273		Aug 21 2017 9:24AM	Ms. Dena Christine	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want. We live in a Democracy! Some of you seem to believe and act otherwise. Every single person, every single American citizen has the right to vote and have their vote counted and as they cast it.
3274		Aug 21 2017 10:30AM	Ms. Bonnie Sweet	Do not split Columbus County.
3275		Aug 21 2017 10:31AM	Ms. kathryn liss	I think that maps should be drawn with geography in mind, not which party is likely to be able to win the district. It is important that communities, like Asheville, not be divided into multiple districts so that we can have a representative who clearly represents our community's interests. Districts like the one that follows I-85 are completely impossible to campaign in. When the constituents are chosen one house at a time based on voting affiliation, that is gerrymandering.
3276		Aug 21 2017 10:35AM	Ms. Alicia Berry	Please re-draw these maps WITHOUT FAVORING INCUMBENTS. Please re-draw these maps WITHOUT FAVORING ONE POLITICAL PARTY OVER ANOTHER. Thank you, Alicia Berry Pittsboro
3277		Aug 21 2017 10:55AM	Mr. Jeff King	As a NC voter, I am requesting that the all maps and the methodology used to draw the maps be made public. I am also requesting that the names of all individuals and organizations who have provided input to Rep. Lewis and Sen. Hise be made public to allow for greater transparency on the process. I am very concerned that NCGA members are constructing districts in a way which disenfranchises and disempowers large portions of NC. Fair and competitive voting districts are the lifeblood of democracy. The efforts to squelch competition through gerrymandered districts is an affront to all citizens of North Carolina.
3278		Aug 21 2017 11:03AM	Cindy Hagie Fraser	Fairness and the rule of law should be the factors in redrawing the maps. The people of NC expect this from the NCGA. Please, take this seriously and without playing partisan games.
3279		Aug 21 2017 11:11AM	Mr. Andrei Dumitru	I would like to suggest using zip codes for districts. Let communities vote together. Fair & non-partisan.
3280		Aug 21 2017 11:15AM	Wanda Goforth	I support fair and equitable redistricting in North Carolina. I hope and believe that our House and Senate will work to accomplish that goal. Thank you!
3281		Aug 21 2017 11:18AM	Mrs. Rhoda Davis	I do not trust the consultant who drew the current illegal maps since he is known for rigging maps to help one party. Legislative leaders have declared you are considering past election outcomes and will draw districts for partisan advantage, which is hardly what the Court has ordered. Releasing the maps without the details makes this a charade. I believe that you want the Courts to reject your maps and give you more opportunity to stall.
3282		Aug 21 2017 11:21AM	Dr. Leigh Ann Simmons	The redrawn map is still gerrymandered and most certainly does not reflect the spirit or the letter of the ruling to redraw districts. The maps need to be redrawn by an independent party.

3283		Aug 21 2017 11:59AM	Mr. Wayne Horton	The gerrymandering of N. C. legislative and congressional districts has been effective, but that doesn't make it the right thing to do. When Republicans win a seat in one of these districts, what do they have to celebrate except their own adeptness at manipulating the election process? A win using these methods is not the result of winning peoples' minds regarding Republican ideas about government. Instead, the rigged districts have made Republicans seem hypocritical and power-hungry. Why resort to gerrymandering if you believe that you stand for what the citizens of North Carolina want? And if the citizens of the state don't want the government that you envision, what gives you the right to ignore that fact by making it impossible for non-Republicans to elect someone to represent them in governing? Every vote by legislators elected under this system is invalid and every law so enacted should be overturned.
3284		Aug 21 2017 12:03PM	Mr. William Neuffer	I believe re districting should be done by a non-partisan group. For example, 3 republicans, 3 democrats, 3 independents making up the panel. Ideally, the legislature should reflect the voters. That is, if 60% of voters chose political party A then the legislature members should have as close as possible to 60% from political party A. Thank you.
3285		Aug 21 2017 12:06PM	Ms. Nancy Blood	The fact that 28 out of 170 House and Senate districts in NC were found by the Supreme Court to be racially gerrymandered is a travesty of democracy. Racial gerrymandering has reduced political competition and accountability, producing rigged elections that hurt all North Carolinians except the wealthy, white, and mostly male power brokers. Instead, the redistricting process must be open, avoid racial and partisan gerrymandering, and allow voters to pick their political representatives (not the other way around).
3286		Aug 21 2017 12:27PM	Mr. Eric Marsh	Why do we continue on this partisan merrygoround? New maps, court fight, lose in court, new maps,...The people of Iowa said enough and their districts are independently drawn. Whv do we continue this costlv and inefficient effort?
3287		Aug 21 2017 12:31PM	Mrs. Rebecca Burmester	I am naive enough to believe that I live in a democracy. In order for that to be true, voting maps need to be geographically as compact as population permits and they need to be drawn without consideration of voting history. NC needs a nonpartisan redistricting committee not composed of politicians and other elected officials. I find it against the Public Welfare for redistricting to be done by persons representing us in districts the Courts have determined are unconstitutional.
3288		Aug 21 2017 12:46PM	Ms. Dorothy Rawleigh	Because of the August 2016 three judge panel ruling that found that 28 of the 170 legislative districts in NC were "illegal racial gerrymanders", our current legislature is also illegal and therefore illegitimate. This means that the legislative redistricting process is inherently corrupt and flawed because it's being carried out by this current illegal and illegitimate legislature. This is a shameful and insulting mockery of our democratic process. I hear so many Republican legislators here in NC denounce the actions of the white supremacists in Charlottesville, VA but the most powerful form of white supremacy is when politicians pass laws that disenfranchises black voters from having an EQUAL voice in our democracy. And that is exactly what has been happening in North Carolina since 2011 through the racially gerrymandered districts and the rollback on voting rights. A new poll shows that four out of five North Carolina voters (80%) say it's not fair for politicians to draw their own districts. That includes 85% of Democrats, 74% of Republicans, 80% of independents –as well as 70% of Trump supporters and 80% of African Americans. The redistricting process must be open, avoid racial or partisan gerrymandering, and allow voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around. Before it is approved, a map must be evaluated for overall racial bias and partisan competitiveness, using tools recognized by courts to measure fairness.
3289		Aug 21 2017 12:46PM	Kelly Cosby	My family is trusting our representatives to refer to experts to create a completely, demonstrably fair and NONPARTISAN maps. It is extremely offensive to us that previous maps have been drawn in order to disenfranchise particularly groups, including racial minorities. It is important to us that not only the maps be drawn fairly this time but that a very clear plan be shared with the public for how we can ensure that this NEVER happens again, no matter which party is currently in power. Thanks so much, Kelly Cosby

3290		Aug 21 2017 12:57PM	Ms. Shannon Kauffman	I urge the NC Republican legislators in control of redistricting to consider the mistakes they made when they racially gerrymandered the map. When they drew the map to disenfranchise people of color, they hurt the entire state of NC and the reputation of their party. Please stand up for all of NC by creating compact districts without odd tentacles, don't skip over areas or join two communities at a narrow point. Don't divide communities with similar backgrounds, and don't divide based on party affiliation. If you're proud of your parties policies then you should not feel the need to win elections by gerrymandering. Gerrymandering is a covert form of racism and our state and country has been embarrassed enough. Please do the right thing and support the inclusion values of America. What you do lives on after you leave office.
3291		Aug 21 2017 1:04PM	Ms. Charlotte Phillips	Keep Columbus Together. We don't want another county making decisions for our county. Thanks.
3292		Aug 21 2017 1:05PM	Mr. Dan Kiger	We are happy with the representation given by our current Senator and do not wish to create a competition for the seat created by possible redistricting.
3293		Aug 21 2017 1:30PM	Ms. Diane Vannais	If you truly cared for and loved Democracy, you would believe in one person, one vote. These gerrymandered districts are like ghettos. Be brave. Do the right thing...make districts logical and fair.
3294		Aug 21 2017 1:35PM	Dr. Karen Wade	The process of drawing the district maps should be transparent and beyond reproach. We want legislators who win fair and square. We don't want there to be a taint on a legislator's victory. It is cheating the democratic process to draw the maps to favor a particular party, candidate or race. I think I speak for the majority in saying that we are sick of unethical and less-than-upright behavior from our political leaders. It tarnishes the reputation of all and not just those that support such measures that undermine our democracy. I think my legislators are ethical. I just ask that they have the courage politically to stand up for fairly drawn maps against others of their party who want to win at any cost. If you work for your constituents, you will be re-elected without any gerrymandering. Most people realize that we are all being cheated by gerrymandering. They realize that the politicians are attempting to nullify votes and get elected without actually earning the votes needed. Please stand up for democracy and help to restore respect and confidence in the legislature. Thank you.
3295		Aug 21 2017 1:46PM	Ms. Ellen Farber	Maps need to be done by an objective third party. This map is favoring republicans and should not be approved.
3296		Aug 21 2017 1:49PM	Mr. Jim Donnelly	It is critical for the well-being of our state and the exercise of our democracy that we have legislative districts that are fair and unbiased. Those are the foundation of effective governance in our great state. Please ensure that the process used to create these districts is itself fair and unbiased, as well as timely. District boundaries should be based on data and collaborative action in the best interests of all of our citizens.
3297		Aug 21 2017 2:06PM	Mr. Glenn Conway	Thank you. My family and I support non-partisan re-districting to be fair to all North Carolinians. We do not support gerrymandered districts, no matter whether the gerrymandering considers race or likely voting patterns. The NC GOP complains very vocally when Democrats do anything that can be considered partisan, so stop the hypocrisy and implement fair districts for truly representative and fair elections.
3298		Aug 21 2017 3:05PM	Mrs. Stephanie Brown	Please take partisan politics out of redistricting. The state of North Carolina votes about 50% republicans and 50% democrats in most of the polling (leaving aside the independents) -- and the NCGA DOES NOT reflect this balance. I feel strongly that the legislature should have the opportunity to represent ALL North Carolinians. The current districts are so stacked as to make that practically impossible.
3299		Aug 21 2017 3:08PM	Daniel Sipp	I urge all legislators in North Carolina to work together to redraw districting lines that are fair to all. It has been proven - and the US Supreme Court agreed - that the districting lines current in use in this state were created to disenfranchise citizens of this state on racial lines. That calls into question the legitimacy of many current office holders and the laws passed by our legislature. All of you have a duty and an obligation as representatives of all of the citizens of this state to create districts that are fair and reflect the true values of North Carolinians. You are public servants and owe the citizens of this state whatever you can do to insure that elections here are free and fair. I trust that you will do what you know is right in your hearts. Thank you.
3300		Aug 21 2017 3:16PM	mark hayes	Keep columbus county together no redistricting to pender and robeson county.
3301		Aug 21 2017 3:20PM	Mrs. Cindy Douglass	We should have clarity on voting districts. Redistricting should be done to be fair and easy for voters to vote, no matter who is voting. And the map areas should line up in a sensible manner. No sneaky votes behind closed doors. No funny stuff with the map, please. That's called cheating, no matter which side one is on. And I will ALWAYS vote against the party that does that sneaky stuff!
3302		Aug 21 2017 3:27PM	regene butler	please chose fair district lines for the whole state.
3303		Aug 21 2017 3:39PM	Ms. Jessica Stringer	Shame on you, NCGA, for shameful, unfair redistricting maps and for making it so dang hard for citizens to get to the meetings – 4pm on a Tuesday with no notice? Shame on you.

3304		Aug 21 2017 3:42PM	Ms. Michelle Topal	<p>In order for elections in NC to represent the people and the will of the people in NC and not just to represent and maintain those in power, at the expense of the will of the people, I believe that voting maps should be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be compact • respect communities of interest & therefore not drawn to minimize their voter impact • be contiguous • comply with the Voting Rights Act to ensure that it’s possible for black voters to elect their candidates of choice • be free from partisan politics (ignore voter registration data, past election results, incumbent addresses, etc.) and ensure maps are not drawn to unduly favor a particular party, candidate or lawmaker <p>The process should also continue to be transparent, including the opportunity for the public to view maps and have public hearings.</p>
3305		Aug 21 2017 3:58PM	Mrs. Morgan Weston	<p>If you are confident you are doing what is best for your constituents, then you should not be afraid of fair and unbiased district mapping. The racist gerrymandering shown in the most recent redistricting map makes me ashamed to call you our representatives. North Carolina's legislative maps should and must be drawn by an impartial third party without regard to race or socioeconomic status.</p>
3306		Aug 21 2017 3:59PM	Mr. Lucas Newton	<p>Please put an end to gerrymandered districts.</p>
3307		Aug 21 2017 4:00PM	Ms. Catherine Marie	<p>We need to have the right to fair maps that are not drawn to change election results. Every vote in North Carolina should count equally. This doesn't happen because of gerrymandered maps!</p>
3308		Aug 21 2017 4:09PM	Thomas Edgar	<p>My hope is that redistricting is done correctly this time around. We are to a scenario where representatives are doubled up in some districts. This has gotten to be a huge mess and is a waste of time and money by the taxpayers. Please ensure that the districts are correct and further issues are avoided.</p>
3309		Aug 21 2017 4:15PM	Ms. Susan Tackett	<p>If we want real democracy, we must stop gerrymandering districts to achieve a predetermined goal in voting. Let people have the freedom to speak out through their votes so that those elected truly represent the people who voted! We must do away with past gerrymandering and have honest geographical districts. Let democracy thrive one more!</p>
3310		Aug 21 2017 4:18PM	Mr. James Weston	<p>If you are confident you are doing what is best for your constituents, then you should not be afraid of fair and unbiased district mapping. The racist gerrymandering shown in the most recent redistricting map makes me ashamed to call you our representatives. North Carolina's legislative maps should and must be drawn by an impartial third party without regard to race or socioeconomic status.</p>
3311		Aug 21 2017 4:38PM	Ms. Rebecca Helgesen	<p>New, corrected legislative district maps that represent all populations and party affiliations in our state fairly, without gerrymandering, are ESSENTIAL to fairness in elections. In fact, democracy as practiced in America REQUIRES fair elections, and any/every time legislative districts are distorted to give one party or another unfair advantage in elections is a departure from the genuine practice of democracy in our state and country. Please desist from creating more of the discriminatory sort of maps and voter suppression laws you have created in the past, thereby practicing genuine democracy, as our founders intended!</p>
3312		Aug 21 2017 4:42PM	Sonya Mihal	<p>We need to keep this issue bipartisan, so that everyone's vote is heard, regardless of which party is in majority control currently. This is a simple matter of equality, which our constitution and country are based on.</p>
3313		Aug 21 2017 4:46PM	Mrs. Stephanie Hall	<p>As the analysis of Indivisible Flip NC has found, the new maps are even more gerrymandered than the old maps.</p> <p>WE DEMAND FAIR MAPS!</p> <p>Fair redistricting should follow these basic principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Race is Key: Map drawers must ensure that it is possible for black voters to elect their candidates of choice, as required by the Voting Rights Act. •“One person, one vote:” Districts must be very equal in population and obey other laws. •Geographic Compactness: Map drawers must create compact districts, without odd tentacles. Districts must not skip over areas or join two areas at just one point. •Count Incarcerated Persons as residents of their pre--incarceration home or family residence for purposes of redistricting. •No Favoritism: Map drawers must not use the addresses of current lawmakers, or the party affiliation or voting history of voters, or other data to help a party or politician. •Respect Communities of Interest: Map drawers must avoid dividing communities with similar cultural, ethnic and economic interests; a local government district; etc. •Respect County Boundaries: Maps should make every effort to keep counties whole. •Evaluate Fairness: Before it is approved, a map must be evaluated for overall racial bias and partisan competitiveness, using tools recognized by courts to measure fairness.

3314		Aug 21 2017 5:06PM	Marsha Munn	<p>I want to see districts that are compact, contiguous, comply with the Voting Rights Act, are free from partisan politics (don't take into account voter registration data, past election results, incumbent addresses) and do not unduly favor a particular party, candidate or lawmaker. I cannot see that the proposed maps do this. Please give it another try.</p> <p>The current redistricting process continues to be overly partisan and lack transparency. Maps are being drawn behind closed doors and voters are not being given sufficient time to review proposed maps before scheduled public hearings.</p>
3315		Aug 21 2017 5:07PM	Christy Wright	Once again, Republicans have proven that this administration cannot be trusted to redraw voting maps. We demand a special master to draw our districts fairly so every NC resident has the ability to exercise their right to vote. NO GERRYMANDERING!
3316		Aug 21 2017 5:09PM	Mr. Crawford Horne	It's a disgrace that the new districts are being created by those responsible for the current gerrymandered districts. No wonder the NC state legislature needs judicial oversight!
3317		Aug 21 2017 5:11PM	mari szymanski	<p>Redistricting Maps should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be compact • respect communities of interest • be contiguous • comply with the Voting Rights Act to ensure that it's possible for black voters to elect their candidates of choice • be free from partisan politics (ignore voter registration data, past election results, incumbent addresses, etc.) and ensure maps are not drawn to unduly favor a particular party, candidate or lawmaker
3318		Aug 21 2017 5:13PM	Ms. Carolyn Cox	We will no longer tolerate gerrymandering. Let's not wind up back in court.
3319		Aug 21 2017 5:18PM	Ms. Erica Loring	so we've seen some of the data....but not enough. I've see you've managed to remain creative in Mecklenburg County and somehow you've created a majority of districts favoring the GOP. Districts should be equitable. This doesn't represent our state. Our state is much closer to 50/50 and the districts align with this. An independent group should be completing this task for all future districting and the people who created our current illegal districting should not be involved in any way.
3320		Aug 21 2017 5:25PM	Alvin Garner II	I do not support the rest of profiling ESPNU is in the district. Give people the voice to vote
3321		Aug 21 2017 5:31PM	Dr. William Lynch	Please let the long term good of the state be your guide. Create redistricting.maps that are truly fair and that are not solely designed to hold on to power. Surprise citizens across the state with statesmanship rather than partisanship.
3322		Aug 21 2017 5:48PM	Krissy Anderson	<p>There should be an independent redistricting committee to remove partisan politics from the redistricting process. No party or candidate should receive excessive benefit from voting districts.</p> <p>Those who hold elected office or wish to run for office should have no part in creating voting districts. Voters should select their representatives rather than representatives selecting their voters, which undermines democracy, diminishes voices and suppresses new ideas.</p> <p>No member of the independent commission should be eligible to run for elected office during the time period in which the maps of his or her making are in effect.</p> <p>Current NC General Assembly members who are responsible for the existing voting districts, which have been ruled unconstitutional, should not redraw the districts. These representatives were elected unfairly and are not true representatives of NC citizens. Allowing the current NCGA to redraw the districts will only further the existing partisan divide and unfairly quash the voices of many North Carolinians.</p>
3323		Aug 21 2017 6:05PM	Mr. David Ratchford	Please put an end to the bizarre politically motivated re- districting that has plagued North Carolina. Put a stop to the Legislature being allowed to manipulate the boundaries for political gain.
3324		Aug 21 2017 6:13PM	Mrs. Mary Farmer	Fair maps! End gerrymandering now
3325		Aug 21 2017 6:15PM	Ms. Emily Burrows	<p>Please take partisan politics out of redistricting. The state of North Carolina votes about 50% republicans and 50% democrats in most of the polling (leaving aside the independents) -- and the NCGA DOES NOT reflect this balance.</p> <p>I feel strongly that the legislature should have the opportunity to represent ALL North Carolinians. The current districts are so stacked as to make that practically impossible.</p>
3326		Aug 21 2017 6:21PM	Mr. richard cuyler	These new maps look like a great step in the right direction and I would hope that future redistricting efforts towards simplification would continue.
3327		Aug 21 2017 6:23PM	Ms. deborah snowdon	I strongly urge the legislators to adopt fair and impartial redistricting guidelines that do not take any voter information into account except for their address. To say that "The other side did it to us for all of those years" is childish and is hurting our State. Please put aside the partisan politics and help us to get some democracy back into our State. At this point, we are no better than most third world countries when it comes to our votes having equal weight.

3328		Aug 21 2017 6:54PM	Ms. JULIA THORP	The unfair drawing of districts has to stop sometime. Please take this opportunity to do the right thing and appear the bigger men/party: either appoint an independent commission to redraw the districts or establish fair rules and order to the process - and then abide by them. I believe you all know in your hearts what the right thing is. Please do it
3329		Aug 21 2017 6:57PM	Mr. Hal James	I'm very concerned that the re-districting places two champions of Constitutionally conservative government in danger of being placed in districts where the majority of the voters do not hold those beliefs. I'm speaking of Senator Bill Cook from Eastern NC and Representative Larry Pittman in District 82. These two good men have represented their constituents well and deserve better treatment from their colleagues
3330		Aug 21 2017 7:13PM	Edward McLean	These new maps are fair and legal. They follow the letter of the law as understood today. I hope the courts will respect the constitutional role that legislatures have in drafting district lines. the drawing of legislative districts is the responsibility of elected branches of government. I respectfully request that the courts refrain from changing redistricting law and standards after the lines have been drawn. It is not the job of the legislative majority to correct for the severe weakness of the minority, either politically or geographically.
3331		Aug 21 2017 7:14PM	Ms. Shel Anderson	I am incensed to have followed your process and see that you don't really care to inform the public fully about what you are doing. Very late reports to us, the citizens. And from preliminary analyses, it looks like you are continuing the gerrymandering to achieve Republican filling of the GA. Shame on you. Shame, shame.
3332		Aug 21 2017 7:29PM	Mr. Bryce Arghiere	Hello Representatives, You are in a unique position as public servants to sustain and strengthen the principles of equality and fair representation on which our democracy is built. As a North Carolina resident, I am ashamed of the current voting districts. To call our state government a democracy, we must draw voting districts that reflect not racial bias or party preference but the true demographics of our residents. It is your duty and privilege to help us reach this goal. I believe I speak for many North Carolinians when I say, "Push for equality in our state and redraw our voting districts to represent each person fairly and equally." Thank you for your consideration.
3333		Aug 21 2017 7:32PM	Harriet Sayre McCord	The process by which you have "redrawn" maps is a sham. A criterion should NOT be to keep incumbents, who were illegally elected in the first place, in office. Districting should reflect the democratic bedrock of our country: all votes should count equally, and each vote should have as much chance of electing the candidate of the voter's choice as any other. The proposed new maps are scarcely closer to this principle than the old ones. The rehiring of Mr. Hofeller, the delay and secrecy of the proposed new maps, the inconvenient time of the public hearings, all show that the process is not sincere in correcting the wrongs fomented by the last, illegal, set of maps. It is your DUTY to end voting apartheid and the white power grab conducted since 2011. Act for the greater GOOD of ALL North Carolinians, who support fair districting in large numbers, across party, race, and ideology.
3334		Aug 21 2017 7:35PM	Mr. H Donald Capps	First, these hearings are a sham, given that the General Disassembly will be voting on the maps, House & Senate, regardless of any comments made in their regard at the supposedly public hearings. Second, these maps were not developed by the General Disassembly but rather by the former Dixiecrats now known as the North Carolina Republican Party; that Rep. David "Gerrymander" Lewis could not even answer simple questions regarding the basic, broad criteria being used to re-Gerrymander the maps this past weekend, other than confirming that the only point of the effort was to continue to suppress any opposition to the autocrats controlling the General Disassembly, much less any of the real criteria being used to suppress the votes of African-Americans, Hispanics, and Democrats in North Carolina through the Gerrymander process. Third, the new Gerrymander maps simply confirm that the current North Carolina Republican Party, the former Dixiecrats, is basically chickenshit since it wants to avoid a fair fight in the elections; their fears regarding the possibility of having to encounter open elections that might mean that the North Carolina GOP (which is really a toxic combination of the John Birch Society/ Alt-Right/ Dixiecrats/ and, Neo-Fascists) might not get its way in ruining the state. That the North Carolina GOP consistently goes out of its way to fuck with African-Americans, Hispanics, liberals, and anybody else it does not like -- gays, transgenders, etc. -- does not inspire confidence. Fourth, no surprise that Rep. David (Gerrymander/Dumbass) Lewis took his time to actually come up with the new re-Gerrymandered House & Senate maps since it was never a consideration to let the public have any say in this process in the first place; this is the sort of thing that autocracies do when they feel that they can do what they

3335		Aug 21 2017 7:38PM	Ms. Pat Johnson	After looking at the recently released maps, I can see that lines are still drawn to favor GOP. candidates and to disenfranchise minority and poorer districts. I thought that with the Supreme Court decision that 25+ districts were gerrymandered and unfair, that the supposed GOP map specialist would feel obligated and fair in redrawing these borders. Your devisive actions with this and your obstructiive bills in trying to prevent Governor Cooper from leading our state will be remembered at the polls in 2018. I want a legislature that is fair and cooperative. Shame on you!!!!
3336		Aug 21 2017 7:41PM	Dr. Cindy Elmore	How this entire court-mandated redistricting process has been handled has been appalling. 1. You had a year to get fair maps done and have obviously dragged your feet in defiance of court decisions. 2. Nonpartisan fair voting organizations need to have the maps to analyze in ADVANCE of public hearings, which has not been done. 3. You let the same people who drew the egregious racially gerrymandered maps in the first place draw them again. That doesn't even make sense, unless you WANTED to do the same thing. 4. It's been said that Republicans have actually had the new maps for quite a while, but withheld them in order to reduce the amount of time for Democratic opposition and candidates to organize before the November elections. 5. The new maps are slightly better but were still drawn to intentionally favor Republicans. 6. Most importantly, a neutral, nonpartisan organization needs to draw these maps -- certainly not the Republicans nor the Democrats. It is WRONG to intentionally disenfranchise people, as your maps egregiously did. I'm embarrassed for North Carolina. We are not this right-wing state that your gerrymandered maps have turned our representation into. And the rest of the nation is, honestly, looking down on us for this obvious, obvious vote-cheat.
3337		Aug 21 2017 7:45PM	Lynn Archbold	So weary of all of the unfair party shenanigans the NCGOP has been pulling to win elections. If you have to cheat to win what does that say about your choices and the way you are governing? If the majority of your constituents are unhappy with your job performance then listen to them and fix it, and if you can't then step down to someone who can.
3338		Aug 21 2017 7:48PM	Dr. Amanda Ball	We need a non-partisan redistricting commission to determine the districts for North Carolina voters. I support non partisan determination so neither party - republican or democratic can use voter districts to an unfair advantage now or in the future. Thank you.
3339		Aug 21 2017 7:52PM	Mr. Frank Marcucci	The new redistricting map is a joke. You are not fooling anyone with the redrawn map. You just don't get it do you. This is like the fox watching the hen house. Because of the gerrymandering we have a legislature that is highjacked by a bunch of extremists. I have only been a citizen of this state for ten years and I cannot believe what is going on. I talk often with my coworkers in Virginia about how undemocratic this state has become. I recommend that a nonpartisan committee redraw the map. The legislature for once needs to take the moral high road. There are so many people in this state who feel the way I do and are sick and tired of this crap. It really shows what a farce this is, especially with no public hearings in Northeast Carolina. Go ahead and approve this obscenity and it will be right back in court, with the court again ordering the map redrawn by a committee that considers all of the citizens of this state instead of the few white
3340		Aug 21 2017 7:58PM	Ms. Jessica McShea	I would like the voice my opposition to the redistricting recently done by the NCGA. I was ashamed that my state was partaking in racial gerrymandering. Now that we had a chance to redeem ourselves, the GA made the process to do so terrible. The same consultant that was responsible for the racial gerrymandering was brought on to redraw the maps. They have declared they won't consider race but will consider past election results, which means they are redrawing the maps to again benefit the Republican party. Gerrymandering is illegal and is invoking white supremacy. I demand reform in this process to preserve our democracy. The maps need to be reviewed by an independent party to ensure there is no racial or partisan bias.
3341		Aug 21 2017 7:59PM	Ms. Lillian Powell	Please stop the re-districting that has been used by Republicans to get seats. It's not ethical.
3342		Aug 21 2017 8:07PM	Mrs. Alisa Drum	It is time for NC to have fair District in for ALL residents. I propose districts made strictly based on county. Counties should NOT be broken up into districts, Nor should districts run through more than one countv.
3343		Aug 21 2017 8:09PM	Ana De La Cruz	The beauty of America is having faith in our system, being able to vote where peace and peaceful transitions of power be honored. I urge that fair maps be redrawn so that the will of the people be accurately represented. Thank vou. Ana De La Cruz

3344		Aug 21 2017 8:26PM	Ms. Greta Nintzel	<p>Fair redistricting should follow these basic principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Race is Key: Map drawers must ensure that it is possible for black voters to elect their candidates of choice, as required by the Voting Rights Act. • “One person, one vote:” Districts must be very equal in population and obey other laws. • Geographic Compactness: Map drawers must create compact districts, without odd tentacles. Districts must not skip over areas or join two areas at just one point. • Count Incarcerated Persons as residents of their pre-incarceration home or family residence for purposes of redistricting. • No Favoritism: Map drawers must not use the addresses of current lawmakers, or the party affiliation or voting history of voters, or other data to help a party or politician. • Respect Communities of Interest: Map drawers must avoid dividing a communities with similar cultural, ethnic and economic interests; a local government district; etc. • Respect County Boundaries: Maps should make every effort to keep counties whole. • Evaluate Fairness: Before it is approved, a map must be evaluated for overall racial bias and partisan competitiveness, using tools recognized by courts to
3345		Aug 21 2017 8:33PM	Dr. Maria Salgado	<p>Leave politics out of the redistricting business. draw maps that are fair to all.</p>
3346		Aug 21 2017 8:35PM	Mrs. Lelanna Capps	<p>You have known for several months that you were to draw up new Congressional districts. Now as a typical student, you waited until the last possible moment to complete this assignment. To make matters worse you used the same person(s)to draw the districts that were deemed illegal by the courts. Same old business...If I were a teacher, you, the General Assembly of NC would be receiving a failing grade. You need to have hearings from your constituents. One day, depending where you live, and limiting time is totally unsatisfactory. Again, a grade of F is what you have earned in my books.</p>
3347		Aug 21 2017 8:41PM	Mr. Robert Brown	<p>Fair redistricting should follow these basic principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Race is Key: Map drawers must ensure that it is possible for black voters to elect their candidates of choice, as required by the Voting Rights Act. •“One person, one vote:” Districts must be very equal in population and obey other laws. •Geographic Compactness: Map drawers must create compact districts, without odd tentacles. Districts must not skip over areas or join two areas at just one point. •Count Incarcerated Persons as residents of their pre--incarceration home or family residence for purposes of redistricting. •No Favoritism: Map drawers must not use the addresses of current lawmakers, or the party affiliation or voting history of voters, or other data to help a party or politician. •Respect Communities of Interest: Map drawers must avoid dividing communities with similar cultural, ethnic and economic interests; a local government district; etc. •Respect County Boundaries: Maps should make every effort to keep counties whole. •Evaluate Fairness: Before it is approved, a map must be evaluated for overall racial bias and partisan competitiveness, using tools recognized by courts to measure fairness
3348		Aug 21 2017 8:41PM	Ms. Stef Mendell	<p>It is absolutely reprehensible that the newly drawn maps still have only about 10% of the races competitive. I want to choose my representatives; I don't want representatives choosing their voters. Please do the right thing to protect our democracy and draw independent, non-partisan districts. You know it's the right thing to do, so do it!</p>
3349		Aug 21 2017 8:43PM	terry mccollum	<p>the public needs more time to view the maps and react/discuss/give input. This turn-around time doesn't fool anyone....you are still gerrymandering!!!!</p>
3350		Aug 21 2017 8:47PM	Mrs. Jane Rose	<p>I am deeply disappointed in the redistricting. The legislature had a golden opportunity to draw fair and impartial lines instead you hired Tom Hofeller, a GOP consultant who drew the unconstitutional lines in 2011. This shows no desire to do what is right, but only a desire to hold power. Give the task to a nonpartisan group, and redeem yourselves</p>

3351		Aug 21 2017 8:48PM	Ms. Patricia Walker	Our country was founded on the basis of "one man, one vote," and it is essential that voting districts be fairly and equitably drawn. The arrogant travesty of the 2010 redistricting should make every single person who voted for it hang their head in shame. Thanks to a unanimous vote of the Supreme Court, you now have an opportunity to redress the bigoted and racist actions of 2010 by drawing new districts that fairly represent ALL North Carolinians. That is the decent, honorable thing to do. It is not only what the citizens of North Carolina expect. It's what your mama expects, because she taught you better.
3352		Aug 21 2017 8:54PM	Ms. Cynthia Byrne	<p>Dear Sirs,</p> <p>The gerrymandering in many districts in my beloved North Carolina is simply infeasible! Many of them look like you gave a 5 year old a bright crayon and asked them to make pretty pictures of snakes and stars and arrows!! How on earth you can think that reasonable people will see these crazy allocations as anything other than ideologically driven is a national disgrace. For instance, in the Senate Redistricting - what on earth is going on with 21? It's exactly like an arrow driven into the heart of 19. Or the upper left hand corner of 26? And the House map is even worse! The Court finding that your government had attempted voter suppression with "surgical precision" is very well known in the state and this is just a bald-faced attempt to do the same thing with map drawing. As a registered voter who votes as an independent I am seriously unhappy with you as my elected government and instruct you to go back to the table and make North Carolina not only a fair voting state but one which we can be proud of once again.</p> <p>Yours very seriously,</p> <p>Cynthia Byrne</p>
3353		Aug 21 2017 8:54PM	Bryce Alexander	<p>What is going on here Lexington and Davidson Co why were our District still rigged for Republicans ?</p> <p>Why can't our districts be drawn to include Lexington and Salisbury together / Southeastern corner and northern Montgomery County. These districts are still gerrymandered ! Please explain</p>
3354		Aug 21 2017 8:58PM	Ms. Sylvia Neal	<p>This is the same racially gerrymandered thing we already have. This offers little improvement. Districts should, in order to be fair, be compact, contiguous, and must comply with the Voting Rights Act to give minority voters an opportunity to elect their candidates of choice. The maps must also be free from partisan politics, ignoring voter registration data and past election results. They must also ignore incumbent addresses. This map</p> <p>was generated by the same software as the last one.</p>
3355		Aug 21 2017 8:58PM	Ms. Sandy Irving	<p>I am writing to encourage our legislature to redraw our districts fairly in an open process. Please remove the consultant Mr. Hofeiler, who drew the illegal maps, from the redistricting process. We must eliminate gerrymndering and restore public trust--a non-partisan redistricting committee is the ideal</p> <p>We must also remember the basic goal of one person, one vote and the basic commandment of doing unto others as you would have them do to you.</p>
3356		Aug 21 2017 8:58PM	Michael Kelley	<p>Thank you,</p> <p>The American Revolutionary War was fought, in part, to provide fair representation of the People in their government. Both the House and Senate draft redistricting plans grossly fail to uphold that principle. They are objectively unfair and undemocratic, and a legislature derived from such plans have no legitimacy to govern. Shame on you and your immoral behavior that corrupts our system of government. Go back, do the right thing, and draw maps that fairly allocate legislative representation according to how people have voted (i.e., almost evenly balanced).</p>
3357		Aug 21 2017 9:01PM	Mrs. dVirginia Brown	<p>"Fair redistricting should follow these basic principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Race is Key: Map drawers must ensure that it is possible for black voters to elect their candidates of choice, as required by the Voting Rights Act. •"One person, one vote:" Districts must be very equal in population and obey other laws. •Geographic Compactness: Map drawers must create compact districts, without odd tentacles. Districts must not skip over areas or join two areas at just one point. •Count Incarcerated Persons as residents of their pre--incarceration home or family residence for purposes of redistricting. •No Favoritism: Map drawers must not use the addresses of current lawmakers, or the party affiliation or voting history of voters, or other data to help a party or politician. •Respect Communities of Interest: Map drawers must avoid dividing communities with similar cultural, ethnic and economic interests; a local government district; etc. •Respect County Boundaries: Maps should make every effort to keep counties whole. •Evaluate Fairness: Before it is approved, a map must be evaluated for overall racial bias and partisan competitiveness, using tools recognized by courts to measure fairness."

3358		Aug 21 2017 9:15PM	Garry Vogelpohl	It is time to seek more neutral voting maps and cease - from all political parties - drawing voting maps in order to close out true choice for voters. Elections are meant too serve the public, not mere party interests. Our votes are to elect our representatives, rather than electoral races being decided via artificial boundary maps for the advantage of political parties. Let it be a true contest between viewpoints, rather than a system rigged to make voting pointless.
3359		Aug 21 2017 9:25PM	Ann Brady	<p>You gave us one day's notice before the hearings to study and learn about the new maps. There may be some improvement, but most districts are still solidly Dem or Rep, mostly to favor Republicans.</p> <p>I'm particularly upset that the whole process of redrawing has been unfair and far from transparent. I understand the new maps were made to preserve Republican power, not to give all of us a chance to participate in a democracy (which requires representative government). A bill has been introduced each year supporting a process of fair redistricting; it never even has been allowed to the floor despite having bipartisan support.</p> <p>I know you don't have much time to redraw maps again. Maybe this time race is not a factor, but saving your seats and denying me an opportunity for representation is NOT FAIR REDISTRICTING!</p> <p>If you can't do better now, maybe for 2020 you will at least allow a fair redistricting bill to get to the floor for debate.</p>
3360		Aug 21 2017 9:29PM	Ms. Rane Winslow	As elected representatives of ALL North Carolinians, not just wealthy special interests and campaign contributors, I demand that the legislature start following laws about voter distribution. Your voters, white, black, wealthy, poor, and largely unaffiliated, expect this from you. Educated or not, we are not unintelligent and know your leaders want to keep their jobs and power, and apparently,are willing to break the law to do it. Whether we voted for you or not, you are our representatives. Stop hurting the people of NC by "following the leader" and destroying the state's reputation with your actions and inactions. History WILL judge you. How do you want to be remembered?
3361		Aug 21 2017 9:32PM	Ms. Donna Roulic	Maps should be drawn and made by non-partisan individuals. Voters cannot trust Republicans to make the maps. Maps will only be once again illegal, unconstitutional. Republicans believe the only way they can win elections is to take away minority voters right to vote.
3362		Aug 21 2017 9:33PM	Virginia Hall	Please restore fairness and true representation to the districts of NC.Gerrymandering is unfair!
3363		Aug 21 2017 9:40PM	Mrs. ANNE WHIPPLE	After reviewing the newly released proposed Senate legislative maps, I conclude that the maps are fair and legal. The maps follow the Voting Rights Act guidelines. Please vote to APPROVE the 2017 Senate Redistricting Plan.
3364		Aug 21 2017 9:41PM	Ms. Linda Mullen	I find your plan to draw up redistricting maps appalling. It seems to be a thinly veiled threat to democracy. It will put a clear disadvantage in place to the African American community and to those who predominantly vote Democrats into office. If this redistricting plan is approved, it will only prove what so many have thought all along. Republicans, conservatives and the alt right will be denying a large chunk of their opposition the chance to vote. Doesn't seem fair considering we live in a country that was built on the idea that we are all equal and deserve the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. This is 2017. Do what you know is right and stop this gerrymandering. If your party ever wins control again (not going to happen) at least you can be sure you won fair and square.

3365		Aug 21 2017 9:42PM	Ms. Chris Ekstedt	<p>We know, that, in order to be fair, the new maps that were drawn should have been compact, contiguous, and must comply with the Voting Rights Act to give minority voters an opportunity to elect their candidates of choice.</p> <p>The maps should also have been free from partisan politics, ignoring voter registration data and past election results. They should also ignore incumbent addresses, to avoid intentionally “double-bunking” two incumbents in order to force one of them out of office.</p> <p>Unfortunately, the new redistricting process is too partisan to ensure that fair maps are drawn. The maps are being drawn behind closed doors, and voters are not being given sufficient time to review any proposed maps before the public hearings. Plus these maps are still being drawn by the same GOP lawmakers and consultants using the same software as the previous maps, and approved by the unconstitutional legislature that was elected using those racially gerrymandered maps.</p> <p>For years, we have had a three-pronged war on democracy waged against us through racial and partisan gerrymandering, unconstitutional assaults on voting rights, and partisan meddling with the judicial system. Unfortunately, the new redistricting process is simply another part of that assault on democracy.</p> <p>We know this is last-minute, but that’s because the current lawmakers wanted it that way. This is a terrible process. Legislative leaders fought us tooth and nail, and then hired the same computer expert who drew the earlier illegal maps; they delayed the release of the new maps until now, and still haven’t provided meaningful data to thoroughly analyze the new districts for racial bias.We had ONLY DAYS WITHOUT ENOUGH UNDERLYING DATA TO ASSESS THE IMPACT OF THESE MAPS!!! We demand more time to review these maps!</p>
3366		Aug 21 2017 9:42PM	Mrs. Janelle Hardee	As a concerned Columbus County resident, I strongly disagree with splitting our county. We need a representative that fights for our WHOLE county not two people that may or may not live here. If we never realized the importance before, we do now. After Hurricane Matthew devastated our county, our county representative was quick to jump into action for us All. Do Not Rip Our County Apart.
3367		Aug 21 2017 9:45PM	Ms. Kate Fisher	I am opposed to racial and partisan gerrymandering. How could you hire the same "expert" who drew the previous illegal maps?Why the delay in releasing them? Where is the proof that districts have been analyzed for racial bias? It appears that most of the districts favor the Republican mapmakers. This is unacceptable.
3368		Aug 21 2017 9:58PM	Mrs. Debra Hughes	We are not in favor of splitting Columbus County. Ned & Debra Hughes
3369		Aug 21 2017 10:18PM	Sarah Koonce	Please leave Columbus County as a whole district. Please
3370		Aug 21 2017 10:32PM	Mrs. Pam Byrd	Columbus County is a large county but we do not have the population that others have. Please do not split this county of the representation that we have in Raleigh. How in the world can a representative have the best interests of a county when you split it with another representative? North Carolina needs to understand this is also not the best time in our history to divide anyone for any reason. We do not want to look at our neighbor and say your representative is not my representative!!
3371		Aug 21 2017 10:34PM	Deborah McNeill	Please keep Columbus county as one
3372		Aug 21 2017 10:36PM	Mr. Steve Volstad	<p>Please do not divide Columbus County in half when redistricting. The eastern part of the county would most likely be presented by someone from Pender county. I think it is in the best interest of Columbus county for the whole county to be represented by the same person.</p> <p>New maps, same as the old maps.</p>

3373		Aug 21 2017 10:39PM	Mrs. Keaton Hill	<p>As a North Carolina resident, I demand fair, constitutional and un-gerrymandered maps.</p> <p>Legislative leaders continue to stall and avoid fixing their unconstitutional maps. Federal judges have rebuked these leaders for not “taking seriously” the urgency of correcting their illegal maps. I am very disturbed that Republican lawmakers declared they will not consider the race of voters, as if that would stop them from drawing biased maps. In fact, that approach ignores the directive of the courts to examine whether black voters have a fair chance to elect candidates of their choice in the new districts.</p> <p>How can the public trust legislators elected from illegal districts to draw fair maps, especially when they use the same mapmaker and highly partisan goals? General Assembly leaders have spent \$4.8 million of taxpayers’ money to defend their maps in court -- this is a huge waste of our money.</p> <p>Like the Klan violence of yesterday and today, racial gerrymandering must be ended in order to fulfill the N.C. Constitution’s edict that government serve “the good of the whole.”</p> <p>We are tired of gerrymandering and the politicians who practice it. The redistricting process must be open, avoid racial or partisan gerrymandering, and allow voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around. Before it is approved, a map must be evaluated for overall racial bias and partisan competitiveness, using tools recognized by courts to measure fairness.</p>
3374		Aug 21 2017 10:40PM	Ms. Shirlie Pinkham	The proposed redistricting maps are offensive and insulting to voters' intelligence. We do realize that they will have the same net effect as the current districts that are widely known to be purely partisan. The process of drawing them up was not transparent at all, but that is to be expected when people are trying to sneak in something underhanded. Come on, please. Do the right thing/what the courts have ordered. Give us districts that allow all voters to have a real chance at being represented, and are something other than partisan electoral ghettoes.
3375		Aug 21 2017 10:48PM	Ms. Marie Curran	As a woman who works, votes, raises a child, and contributes in many ways to the city of Durham, I feel very left out of the political process with the current voting maps. Please create voting maps that do not lump people of assumed similar political views into unfair and bogus districts. You are representing all people in this state, not only the most extreme in your own political party/ideology.
3376		Aug 21 2017 10:56PM	Larry Hicks	I strongly support a non-partisan commission to provide the districting maps for all positions. It is time that the electorate gets to choose its representatives; not the other way around. This I ask no matter which side of the political aisle you are from. A true participative democracy would eliminate barriers to voting and would permit districts to be truly representative - they should be compact, based on population, and use existing county lines as much as practical. These maps are slanted and contrary to the expectations outlined above. Thank you!
3377		Aug 21 2017 10:59PM	Laura Wamsley	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. You should not allow partisanship to bias districts- that undermines our democracy and reduces the value of my vote 2. The reps from districts that were illegal should not be allowed to run as uncontested incumbents or really even vote on legislation until their employment is confirmed by the people 3. This should have been done by an independent party with multiple levels of oversight 4. Data should have been released and public comment opened long before any deadlines
3378		Aug 21 2017 11:04PM	Bridget Leibold	<p>Time to change the way we do this in NC</p> <p>An assault on our democracy! In order to be fair, new maps must be compact, contiguous, and must comply with the Voting Rights Act to give minority voters an opportunity to elect their candidates of choice. The maps must also be free from partisan politics, ignoring voter registration data and past election results. They must also ignore incumbent addresses, to avoid intentionally “double-bunking” two incumbents in order to force one of them out of office. Unfortunately, the new redistricting process is too partisan to ensure that fair maps are drawn. The maps are being drawn behind closed doors, and voters are not being given sufficient time to review any proposed maps before the public hearings. At the end of the day, these maps are still being drawn by the same GOP lawmakers and consultants using the same software as the previous maps, and approved by the unconstitutional legislature that was elected using those racially gerrymandered maps.</p>
3379		Aug 21 2017 11:08PM	Ms. Ellen Perry	This is so important. Please, let's get it right! Sadly, these maps are still being drawn by the same GOP lawmakers and consultants using the same software as the previous maps, and approved by the unconstitutional legislature that was elected using those racially gerrymandered maps. Surely we can do better!! Thank you.

3380		Aug 21 2017 11:21PM	Ms. Carolyn Davi	<p>Whether you are Democrat, Republican, or independent, everyone should recognize that the redistricting maps should be fair and not favor a particular party. The maps need to be nonpartisan, contiguous, and consistent with Voting Right Act requirements.</p> <p>Please take the partisanship out of the legislative maps. Make the process and the maps nonpartisan and then fairly take your case for election to the people in the resulting districts.</p> <p>Gerrymandering is a form of cheating. If you have to cheat to win, your policies aren't worth much. It's time for the NC legislature to act with honor and draw maps that are nonpartisan.</p> <p>The proposed maps thus far do not meet that standard.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and attention.</p>
3381		Aug 21 2017 11:24PM	Ms. Sarah Stoeckel	<p>These new maps are even worse than the last ones. And you know it. We demand and deserve maps that truly represent our districts without all the race-based gerrymandering.</p> <p>AS YOU KNOW, Fair redistricting should follow these basic principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Race is Key: Map drawers must ensure that it is possible for black voters to elect their candidates of choice, as required by the Voting Rights Act. •“One person, one vote:” Districts must be very equal in population and obey other laws. •Geographic Compactness: Map drawers must create compact districts, without odd tentacles. Districts must not skip over areas or join two areas at just one point. •Count Incarcerated Persons as residents of their pre-incarceration home or family residence for purposes of redistricting. •No Favoritism: Map drawers must not use the addresses of current lawmakers, or the party affiliation or voting history of voters, or other data to help a party or politician. •Respect Communities of Interest: Map drawers must avoid dividing communities with similar cultural, ethnic and economic interests; a local government district; etc. •Respect County Boundaries: Maps should make every effort to keep counties whole. •Evaluate Fairness: Before it is approved, a map must be evaluated for overall racial bias and partisan competitiveness, using tools recognized by courts to measure fairness." <p>Please do not lock the public out of the process anymore. Please share information with the democrats and work together in a true bipartisan effort (not the sham of fake bipartisanship you keep citing). You need a new expert and new software, and meaningful participation of BOTH</p>
3382		Aug 21 2017 11:34PM	Ms. Elizabeth Kent	<p>One weekday afternoon meeting, held in a mere seven locations for the entire state, is completely inadequate for citizens to express their opinions about the new redistricting map. This is especially true since most of the meeting rooms hold less than 100 people.</p> <p>Perhaps you can schedule one or more additional meetings in each of the new districts. That would let voters more clearly understand the ramifications.</p> <p>Please schedule additional meetings so that concerned citizens can inspect the maps and point out issues. For example, reports say that by pure random chance, over 50% of the African-American voters have been placed into three districts. Google says that 22.1% of the state's population is African-American. The voting districts should be designed so that those citizens have a fair chance of seeing a more diverse group of people in the Legislature.</p> <p>On the other hand, if the Legislature chooses to draw maps that will cause the ACLU and the Federal Government to sue, that's a problem. The current budget cut funding to the DOJ, and the state will have to hire a separate batch of outside lawyers to defend the cases. That will be expensive for taxpayers.</p> <p>Please just draw the districts fairly so we don't have to go through this every two years.</p> <p>Elizabeth Kent</p>
3383		Aug 21 2017 11:35PM	Mrs. Emily Larsen	<p>We need an independent committee to create the new districts. It's ridiculous that NC Republicans are allowed to use the same guy again and that they announced race won't be a factor. Please stand up for NC citizens and reject the republicans latest redistricting plan. It needs to be done independently.</p>
3384		Aug 21 2017 11:49PM	Arlene Saper	<p>Honorable Reps.</p> <p>A true democracy does not limit citizens'voting rights; however, gerrymandering does by preventing a democracy from functioning equitably.</p> <p>As a constituent, I ask that the redrawn district maps be made available to the public forcomment prior to a vote.</p>

3385		Aug 22 2017 12:30AM	Ms. Emma Sansing	<p>Please follow the North Carolina Common Cause criteria for redrawing the voting maps of North Carolina as follows: Be Compact, Respect Communities of Interest, Be Contiguous, Comply with the Voting Rights Act to ensure that it's possible for black voters to elect their candidates of choice, and Be Free of Partisan Politics (by ignoring voter registration data, past election results, incumbent addresses, etc.) and ensure maps are not drawn to unduly favor a particular party, candidate or lawmaker.</p> <p>To the above criteria, I also add the following:</p> <p>Racial gerrymandering is White Supremacy in one of most egregious forms - the disenfranchisement of the right to vote. North Carolina is better than this, and I thank the courts for upholding the rule of law and requiring the North Carolina General Assembly comply with the Constitution.</p> <p>Specific Districts of Concern</p> <p>Covington vs. State of North Carolina, 1:15CV399 (M.D.N.C) states that North Carolina House Districts 5, 7, 12, 21, 24, 29, 31, 32, 33, 38, 42, 43, 48, 57, 58, 60, 99, 102, and 107 and Senate Districts 4, 5, 14, 20, 21, 28, 32, 38, and 40 are unconstitutional. These are the districts that I am concerned be properly redrawn to become constitutionally adequate to avoid racial gerrymandering. I am also concerned that in redrawing these districts, other districts could be incorrectly redrawn to become unconstitutional. There should be no "collateral damage" to the constitutionality of other districts.</p> <p>Robust Deliberations</p>
3386		Aug 22 2017 12:53AM	Ms. Georgan Gregg	<p>voting maps should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be compact • respect communities of interest • be contiguous • comply with the Voting Rights Act to ensure that it’s possible for black voters to elect their candidates of choice • be free from partisan politics (ignore voter registration data, past election results, incumbent addresses, etc.) and ensure maps are not drawn to unduly favor a particular party, candidate or lawmaker <p>The current redistricting process continues to be overly partisan and lacks transparency. Maps were drawn behind closed doors and voters were not given sufficient time to review proposed maps before scheduled public hearings.</p> <p>A majority of the Joint House & Senate Redistricting Committee is on the record as supporting nonpartisan redistricting in the past. And yet, the committee rejected nonpartisan redistricting standards now.</p> <p>Instead, these new maps once again perpetuate the cycle of gerrymandering. The proposed districts appear designed to give the majority party maximum advantage, shielding politicians from accountability to the public, while depriving voters of a choice and a voice at the ballot box.</p> <p>End gerrymandering now!</p>
3387		Aug 22 2017 12:55AM	Dr. Gary Vogelpohl	<p>Ruled or governed - which are we choosing?</p> <p>What does it mean that the genius of our democracy is being undermined as if we could not see what is going on? Are we choosing to be blind?</p> <p>We have a system that is meant to allow the people to elect those it chooses to govern them for set terms - a system that has generally leaned to a centrist choosing in the swing of differing party leadership. What seems to clearly be happening is that we are gradually being RULED by a plutocracy that scorns the wisdom and will of the general electorate in order to preserve inordinate privilege over supporting the common good for the most folks.</p> <p>When elections become a forgone event, where clever manipulation of voting divisions/Districting occurs - we have moved from a state of being governed according to the will of the general public to a state of being RULED by the few.</p> <p>Historically, it seems that sooner or later, such collusion between marginally legitimate elected officials and the privileged results in violent reaction. Why do we expect to be different? Why are we selling our fallible but vibrant heritage for toxic posturing and rule/government via division of a people among itself?</p>

3388		Aug 22 2017 1:18AM	Ms. Jacquelyn Drake	<p>As a resident of North Carolina for the past 10 years, it’s great to finally see progress toward addressing our gerrymandering issue, but I’m worried it’s not enough.</p> <p>Republicans in power need to make every effort to sincerely fulfill the spirit of the court mandate to draw lines in a fair way. Having the very same consultant who drew the unconstitutional 2011 lines make a few GOP-friendly tweaks a few days before throwing together a few badly-timed and little-advertised public hearings isn’t enough. I know the courts issued a very tight timeline, but this is not the good faith effort needed.</p> <p>Personally I still can't believe it's legal for the party in power to redraw lines in their political favor to begin with. We need to go further to correct the current Republican gerrymander mess. But in fairness, we can’t favor Democrats either. Districts should be be drawn in a nonpartisan manner based on the best balance of geography and</p>
3389		Aug 22 2017 3:11AM	Laura Holley	<p>I find it very distressing that, after the last committee hearing, with attendance so packed that the overflow room had to be used and the "super-majority" of public comments 29 out of 30) pleaded for the discontinuation of gerrymandering, racial and partisan, and all of the anti-gerrymandering efforts taken up by so many North Carolinians over recent months, it has all fallen on disinterested ears. Gerrymandering is non-Democracy. It is wrong. And, in my town of Apex, the proposed maps have splintered or town up in such a way that eliminates the town - which is the third-largest municipality in one of the state's largest counties - from being represented by anyone who actually lives in the town, effectively sidelining our representation in our state legislature. And so my question to you, those of you who called these shots, how could you?</p>
3390		Aug 22 2017 6:29AM	Dr. Yoshie Lindstrom	<p>We want fair, competitive maps that elect folks responsive to the people who live in their districts – and no more partisan maps.</p>
3391		Aug 22 2017 6:34AM	Mr. Ted Williams	<p>Keep Columbus County together, as one.</p>
3392		Aug 22 2017 6:37AM	Peggy Weaver	<p>I strongly object to the process by which voting districts were recently redrawn - even without having the time or expertise to fully analyze the exact implications of the new district lines. It is shameful that in a democracy elected officials are secretive about the methods and manner in which they are pretending to carry out the will of the people. One suspects that any public business carried out in the dark will not serve that public's interest. The people of this state have made it clear -- we want electoral districts determined by a NON-PARTISAN commission in the clear light of day. Models exist that would guarantee fairness, one person one vote, and an outcome that best reflects the voters' will. I blame both parties for past misconduct. We are slithering into a system of "government" that bears absolutely no resemblance to democracy in this state. I am appalled.</p>
3393		Aug 22 2017 6:37AM	Mrs. Deborah Matsushima	<p>The new redistricting maps should be drawn by an impartial third party. Considering the willfully illegal and dishonest job that was done last time, it is not surprising that the proposed new maps are also extremely partisan. Voters should choose their representatives and not the other way around. We've had to suffer 7 years of an illegal legislature which has disregarded the public's wishes and enacted extreme legislation and, more recently, overridden their governor's veto. For the sake of our democracy and the interest of the public this must end and the only way to do this is to employ an honest, independent third party with the will to draw maps that represent the people.</p>
3394		Aug 22 2017 7:06AM	Ms. Mattie Marshall	<p>End Gerrymandering Now...All votes matter and we must make sure that politics do not dictate or control the redistricting or redrawing of the maps. We cannot expect a fair redistricting process and continuous tampering with the rights of voters using this current method. The proposed maps submitted for comment does not comply with the Voting Rights Act. Therefore, it is time to draw fair maps by an Independent Redistricting Commission. We, the People are calling for non-partisan redistricting. Let's do the math and make sure all votes matter. Uplift all humanity with dignity and respect. END GERRYMANDERING NOW! Simply stated, a kindergartner can make better use of technology to crunch the numbers and achieve fairer and better maps. Remember, Blinders are for horses. Thank you, let's do the people's business and not the will of a few.</p>
3395		Aug 22 2017 7:07AM	Ms. Kathryn Pedersen	<p>As a voter I expect that redistricting not be racially or politically gerrymandered, that redrawn maps evaluate fairness based on court sanctioned tools not political consultants. 4 out of 5 North Carolinian voters of all parties want an open and fair process, that a NON PARTISAN body should be drawing maps, not sitting politicians. Redrawn districts must reflect the democratic principle of 1 person 1 vote. Districts should be compact and respectful of county boundaries, not reshaped to maintain political advantage. More time for public hearings on maps must be allowed. The current process and the redrawn maps this legislature has finally presented are not what a healthy democracy looks like.</p> <p>Sincerely, Kathryn Pedersen</p>

3396		Aug 22 2017 7:10AM	Ms. Rebecca Showalter	<p>The North Carolina voters are TIRED of gerrymandering. We are tired of politicians of any type being able to draw their own maps. It has been proven over and over again that our elected officials cannot seem to do this without trying to tilt the game in their favor. Elections, and election districts, should be fair and unbiased.</p> <p>I am extremely concerned that this GOP led legislature is not taking that ideal seriously, even though they have been rebuked over and over in the courts. The same consultant, known around the country for biased mapping, has been hired. The GOP leadership has said that although they are supposed to be solving racial gerrymandering and making sure African Americans are represented, they won't even take race into consideration. That makes no sense. And the worst yet, the GOP leadership has admitted that once again they will try and draw these maps for partisan advantage - this is simply cheating. Please, enough - just stop.</p> <p>One final thought: with what happened in Charlottesville high on everyone's mind, please understand that I view what the GOP led legislature has done - purposely disenfranchising people of color for their own gain and transferring power to rural whites - on the same spectrum as the ugliness of white supremacy we saw there. Perhaps that's not what the GOP legislature meant but that is its impact. And we should all be ashamed. It echoes the ugliest chapters of our history.</p> <p>Please. Prepare fair, unbiased, and non-gerrymanded districts.</p>
3397		Aug 22 2017 7:32AM	Ms. Donna Kaye	<p>Since I am not able to attend the meeting today, let me say in writing that I strongly advocate for a non partisan approach to redistricting that so many other states have adopted. It is time to stop the cycle of political retribution each time a different party takes power in North Carolina. Republicans, you can win the day and take the high ground by being the ones to stand for non partisan redistricting which is the best for all the people of the state.</p>
3398		Aug 22 2017 7:37AM	Ms. Andrea Bacon	<p>These maps are still awful. You had the same person redraw maps that were already deemed unconstitutional? You guys have been playing games long enough. Let us choose our representatives FAIRLY.</p>
3399		Aug 22 2017 7:58AM	Mr. Jody Campbell	<p>I think the proposed districts look fine for Iredell County.</p>
3400		Aug 22 2017 8:00AM	Maria Bruzzo	<p>"As the analysis of Indivisible Flip NC has found, the new maps are even more gerrymandered than the old maps.</p> <p>WE DEMAND FAIR MAPS!</p> <p>Fair redistricting should follow these basic principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Race is Key: Map drawers must ensure that it is possible for black voters to elect their candidates of choice, as required by the Voting Rights Act. •“One person, one vote:” Districts must be very equal in population and obey other laws. •Geographic Compactness: Map drawers must create compact districts, without odd tentacles. Districts must not skip over areas or join two areas at just one point. •Count Incarcerated Persons as residents of their pre-incarceration home or family residence for purposes of redistricting. •No Favoritism: Map drawers must not use the addresses of current lawmakers, or the party affiliation or voting history of voters, or other data to help a party or politician. •Respect Communities of Interest: Map drawers must avoid dividing communities with similar cultural, ethnic and economic interests; a local government district; etc. •Respect County Boundaries: Maps should make every effort to keep counties whole. •Evaluate Fairness: Before it is approved, a map must be evaluated for overall racial bias and partisan competitiveness, using tools recognized by courts to measure fairness."
3401		Aug 22 2017 8:01AM	Ms. Stephanie Biziewski	<p>As a concerned NC citizen I demand that the redistricting process be open, avoid racial or partisan gerrymandering, and allow voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around.</p> <p>It would also be useful to research the fair practices used in other states and adopt principles that encourage deep community involvement. Fair redistricting must follow a few basic principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ensure that racial groups can elect candidates of their choice - no favoritism - "one person one vote" - respect county boundaries and communities of interest <p>Do your job to ensure that all NC citizens have a real voice in the state of North Carolina.</p>
3402		Aug 22 2017 8:08AM	Mrs. Katherine Shoffner	<p>I am requesting that you re draw the voting district maps in NC in order to ensure that every voter is equally able to vote and elect officials to,represent them. I do not agree with the current map and I do not think you are representing the people of this State by using the same software and consulting firm to re-draw these maps. I am requesting that you fulfill your obligations to,serve all,of the people of this State and uphold and safeguard everyone's constitutional,right to vote. Thank you.</p>

3403		Aug 22 2017 8:16AM	Ms. Kathy Miller	I believe the new district maps remain unfairly tilted toward the Republican party and the process for developing these maps was unacceptable. This obvious racial and partisan gerrymandering is deplorable - I expect much better from our NC legislative leaders. Please do the right thing!!!
3404		Aug 22 2017 8:22AM	Lauren Engelbrecht	As the analysis of Indivisible Flip NC has found, the new maps are even more gerrymandered than the old maps. WE DEMAND FAIR MAPS! Fair redistricting should follow these basic principles: •Race is Key: Map drawers must ensure that it is possible for black voters to elect their candidates of choice, as required by the Voting Rights Act. •“One person, one vote:” Districts must be very equal in population and obey other laws. •Geographic Compactness: Map drawers must create compact districts, without odd tentacles. Districts must not skip over areas or join two areas at just one point. •Count Incarcerated Persons as residents of their pre-incarceration home or family residence for purposes of redistricting. •No Favoritism: Map drawers must not use the addresses of current lawmakers, or the party affiliation or voting history of voters, or other data to help a party or politician. •Respect Communities of Interest: Map drawers must avoid dividing communities with similar cultural, ethnic and economic interests; a local government district; etc. •Respect County Boundaries: Maps should make every effort to keep counties whole. •Evaluate Fairness: Before it is approved, a map must be evaluated for overall racial bias and partisan competitiveness, using tools recognized by courts to measure fairness.
3405		Aug 22 2017 8:22AM	Mr. Thomas Gray	The most recent Gerrymandering was accomplished with malice and forethought. I am hopeful that redistricting this time will be based on fairness for all the good people of NC. We are watching you. Sincerely, Thomas W. Gray
3406		Aug 22 2017 8:23AM	Ms. Laura Maschal	Please consider use of a non- human form of redistricting as a first pass at least. Computer algorithms can group citizens by non-protected classes, by common interests etc., and create logical nonpartisan groupings. A nonpartisan board could
3407		Aug 22 2017 8:24AM	Laura Edgerton	Stop with the political gamesmanship. It is not a democracy if there is effectively no choice. We are a better society and a better state when there is consensus and compromise between our elected officials. This map proposal offers more of the same - more lawsuits, more unfair districts, more of legislators choosing their constituents, rather than vice versa. It is time for the legislature to be leaders for all of North Carolina, not just Republicans. Please redo the maps in a fair and unbiased way.
3408		Aug 22 2017 8:27AM	elaine ford	the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results. there is a hate and division going on in this country and this state. you, as our elected officials, need to stand up and say "enough is enough!". redraw the redistricting lines in a fair manner so that all voices are heard. please stop this partisan child play. we as a state have too much on the line for it. thank you !
3409		Aug 22 2017 8:28AM	Peggy McLeod	In order to be fair, new maps must be compact, contiguous, and must comply with the Voting Rights Act to give minority voters an opportunity to elect their candidates of choice. The maps must also be free from partisan politics, ignoring voter registration data and past election results. They must also ignore incumbent addresses, to avoid intentionally “double-bunking” two incumbents in order to force one of them out of office.
3410		Aug 22 2017 8:31AM	Michael Sullivan	More than anything, the citizens of North Carolina want a non partisan, third party organization redraw these district maps. Really. There is no reason either party should be knvolved in this. It shouldn't even be a debate. Please have a non partisan third party redraw these districts so there is not a bigger interest involved in our elections. This is the only way to remain fair and democratic.
3411		Aug 22 2017 8:35AM	Dr. Sondra Stein	These new maps -- like the olds maps -- make clear that it is time for us to end partisan redistricting by one party or another. It is clear that its primary purpose is to punish the other party and to maintain political control - not to assure that voters get to determine who they want to represent them. We need fair districts, drawn by a nonpartisan (if possible) or bipartisan redistricting commission that assures that all districts are compact, respect county lines, don't divide communities of interest, and follow the law, including Voting Rights Act, so that we voters get to choose our representatives and senators instead of our representatives and senators choosing us! Thank You.

3412		Aug 22 2017 8:39AM	Ms. Erin Moll	I would be here but I have to work. There are 3 democrats vs. 10 republicans. Much of this is because of gerrymandering designed for republicans to win. I live in District 9, which has been represented by republicans since 1963. No party should have such a stronghold over a district. I want the lines to be redrawn by independent bipartisan organization--NOT Republicans-- to better represent the overall diversity of our state. NC is a swing state in terms of general elections, so the representatives should be more 50/50. Make our local elections more competitive again where our representatives actually have to work hard for their constituents, even those who are not part of their party.
3413		Aug 22 2017 8:40AM	Mr. Eric Ginsburg	The North Carolina Legislature has consistently demonstrated its unwillingness or inability to design electoral maps that fairly represent all of the people of North Carolina and do not deliberately favor one party over the other. Other states have effectively addressed this failing through nonpartisan redistricting commissions. It is time that North Carolina followed suit. To refrain from doing so simply perpetuates an unfair practice that further erodes public confidence in our electoral process.
3414		Aug 22 2017 8:42AM	Ms. Kim Mayo	Fairly electing those that represent us in government is one of the most fundamental expectations of Americans. Please redraw the districting maps fairly so that all voters are equally represented now, and in the future. A two-party system is important for ensuring representation for all. Please don't take that away from North Carolinians with further gerrymandering that ensures one party will prevail now and in the future.
3415		Aug 22 2017 8:47AM	Jill Franklin	The district lines must be drawn fairly! The unconstitutional lines that were drawn before discriminated against so many of our state's tax payers including myself. The result of the redistricting will determine who receives my votes in my district for the next election!
3416		Aug 22 2017 8:52AM	Ms. Becky LedBetter	There is a crucial need for districts, no matter who draws them,to be as impartial as possible, to be compact, to avoid dividing communities and especially diluting minority votes, and for an increase in the number of competitive districts statewide. This is an opportunity for the state of North Carolina to show leadership among our states as to how to offer citizens a fair way to voice their vote.
3417		Aug 22 2017 8:55AM	Maryedith Burrell	Don't make it another GOP project. Put an equal amount of Democrats on the committee to redistrict. Don't do it "behind closed doors." . Give ample time for voters to understand the new plan, to review and to comment on it before you pass something in the dead of night. Don't use the same old tricks you did last time. Comply with the Voting Act. MAKE VOTING IN NORTH CAROLINA FAIR!!!
3418		Aug 22 2017 8:57AM	Ms. Jane Harrison	To our legislative leaders: Our democracy is based on the principle that “we the people” elect legislators to be “our representatives”. Legislators should not be allowed to “pick their own voters” through illegally drawn maps. This legislature is has a Republican majority gained through illegal means and has allowed a minority view to dictate policy and legislative actions that go against the wishes of the majority of voters. I have zero confidence that the current attempt to redraw the maps will result in any significant change since the same legislators and the same consult are drawing the new lines. The process is a charade and a stalling tactic to draw out the process, waste more tax dollars defending something that is still illegal and retain control for a minority view as long as possible. New polling shows that 4 out of 5 NC voters say it is not fair for politicians to draw their own districts. A Duke study has already produce redistricting guidelines that should take most partisanship out of the process. We should follow those guidelines. Racial gerrymandering has reduced political competition and accountability. It has produced rigged elections that let some votes count more than others. This has hurt the majority of NC citizens and favored the wealthy, white, mostly male power brokers and unfairly burdened the rest of us. This kind of rigging is a slap in the face of our democratic principles and equality and justice for all. To protect our democracy and governance for the “common good” we must have non-partisan voting districts and no voter suppression laws. Please do what is morally right and support non-partisan redistricting. Jane Harrison, Waynesville, NC 28785
3419		Aug 22 2017 8:59AM	Stacey Hirshman	After being directed by the courts to redraw congressional districts in NC due to cited gerrymandering "wth surgical precision" to achieve racially divided districts, it would make the most sense to form a non-partisan commission in order to achieve districts that no longer discriminate by suppressing the votes of minorities. If we fail to do this properly now, we will end up in this same place again in the future.
3420		Aug 22 2017 9:03AM	mary sewell	I appreciate fewer precincts have been divided. BUT - this map does not reflect the actual diversity of the NC electorate. Democracy requires competitive districts. Most of the districts should be competitive.
3421		Aug 22 2017 9:06AM	Ms. A Mathis	Both house and senate plans are biased and partisan, and reflect the dismal state of NC politics, where the controlling party acts to divide and conquer. A new bipartisan effort is needed, with a new author to the redistricting map. Do what's fair and right for NC.
3422		Aug 22 2017 9:09AM	Ms. Beth McKee-Huger	Draw the district lines in a nonpartisan manner. When one party or another has a guarantee without opposition, we don't have a responsive government, with give-and-take between constituents and elected officials.

3423		Aug 22 2017 9:14AM	Mr. Thomas Drewes	<p>Allowing legislators to cherry-pick their districts is unacceptable. Using the same consultant, Thomas Hofeller, who produced the maps found by our justices to be gerrymandered is unacceptable. Selectively ignoring the county, community, and cohesive boundaries that exist in our state with the sole goal of producing particular election outcomes is unacceptable.</p> <p>If our elected officials had followed some essential principles to ensure fair re-districting, we wouldn't have required judicial oversight in the first place. 80% of North Carolina voters, across all party affiliations, believe it is absurd for the legislators to draw their own districts. Please use these key points to guide your efforts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Map drawers must ensure that it is possible for black voters to elect their candidates of choice, as required by the Voting Rights Act. The same goes for Latino, white or any voters in our communities. * Districts must be very equal in population and obey other laws. * Map drawers must create compact districts, without odd tentacles. Districts must not skip over areas or join two areas at just one point. * Count incarcerated persons as residents of their pre-incarceration home or family residence for purposes of redistricting. * Map drawers must not use the addresses of current lawmakers, or the party affiliation or voting history of voters, or other data to help a party or politician. * Map drawers must avoid dividing communities with similar cultural, ethnic and economic interests; for example, a local government
3424		Aug 22 2017 9:16AM	Ms. Beth Pensiero	<p>It is only just that redistricting in NC reflects the wholeness and diversity of every community across the state. Nothing else is fair for elections to truly evaluate the will of the people!</p>
3425		Aug 22 2017 9:18AM	Darren Hunicutt	<p>NC's redistricting process must be open, avoid racial or partisan gerrymandering, and allow voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around.</p> <p>As a lifelong resident of this state, I am appalled that the General Assembly hired the same consultant, Thomas Hofeller, who drew the current maps that were ruled illegal by the Supreme Court of the United States. Hofeller is nationally known for rigging maps to help his Republican clients. As citizens of NC, we deserve better than this blatant show of contempt for our right to fair elections and representation in state government.</p> <p>We should, and by that I mean that our state representatives should, research the practices used in other states and adopt principles that encourage deep community involvement. If we want a more just North Carolina, North Carolina's elected officials need to consider the following redistricting principles:</p> <p>[1] Map drawers must ensure that it is possible for Black voters to elect their candidates of choice, as required by the Voting Rights Act. [2] Districts must be very equal in population and obey other laws. [3] Map drawers must create compact districts, without odd tentacles. [4] Districts must not skip over areas or join two areas at just one point. [5] Count incarcerated people as residents of their pre-incarceration home or family residence for purposes of redistricting. [6] Map drawers must not use the addresses of current lawmakers, or the party affiliation or voting history of voters, or other data to help a party or politician. [7] Map drawers must avoid dividing communities with similar cultural, ethnic and economic interests; a local government district; etc. [8] Maps should make every effort to keep counties whole. [9] Before it is approved, a map must be evaluated for overall</p>
3426		Aug 22 2017 9:23AM	Mrs. Anne Barnhill	<p>Dear Representatives:</p> <p>While I applaud your efforts to follow the directive of the Supreme Court and end the gerrymandering you so carefully constructed, I fear your most recent map fall short of the mark. First, it was done in secret and released only two days before the public hearings. Very few folks will have enough time to evaluate it fully. Then, is seems on first examination, the map is imperfect. Are you stalling? My feeling is, if you can't win on the merit of your candidate and platform, you don't deserve to win. Cheating reflects badly on the state of North Carolina (which already is in disrepute as a result of the 'bathroom' bill) as well as the Republican Party. Please do not follow the dishonest practices (lying, cheating) which our current federal administration models so well.</p>
3427		Aug 22 2017 9:23AM	Mrs. Diana Kinney	<p>It's time for gerrymandering to stop. Districts should accurately represent the wide range of diversity between all ethnicities, incomes and other socioeconomic factors that can take place in any focused area in North Carolina. It's time to stop cherry picking districts in order to manipulate the voting results you want. That's not fair to your constituents and doesn't give us an accurate chance of making our diverse voices and messages heard. Stop changing the rules to fit your agenda! It's disgusting and it's got to change.</p>

3428		Aug 22 2017 9:24AM	Mrs. Paula Clarity	Before the proposed map is voted on, we need to see the data, including the race, gender, political political affiliation, income, and other characteristics used to make this nap, so all members of the legislature can make an informed decision.
3429		Aug 22 2017 9:25AM	Ms. Roma Durham	Far too long areas of lower income level which most of include people of brown hue have been disenfranchised by our government. Now is the time for our government to take notice and stop the gerrymandering and give these areas fair representation. Those lines need to be redrawn so that every citizens can be equally represented.
3430		Aug 22 2017 9:27AM	Dr. Ann Erickson	Redistributing maps MUST be drawn by an impartial third party, considering distribution of population and not race or party affiliation. The goal should be to be honest and fair. The goal should not be to maintain power of a political party. This constant redrawing and arguing over maps is a waste of tax payer money.
3431		Aug 22 2017 9:31AM	Mrs. Olynda Walker	You guys jump through hoops with redistricting. They are requiring it too often for ridiculous reasons! It is going against our State Constitution. Redistricting is supposed to occur follow a census of the people. Linda is a yeas man only. She does not represent the people maybe she will fail taking Pittman's place. We have not forgotten the mess she made in the past or of her fight against removing the horrible scourge of Common Core!
3432		Aug 22 2017 9:33AM	Ms. Kimberly Coram	<p>Voting is the foundation of our representative government. It is shameful what each party has done to rig the outcome of elections in our state. Our current Assembly was elected with many districts the courts have found to be illegal. Even worse these districts were formed to promote white supremacy.</p> <p>The fact that the General Assembly ignored the courts ruling and now has put the citizens at a disadvantage by rushing a process that should have been methodically reviewed is unacceptable. You are playing games with us and we should have had much more time to review and analyze the new maps.</p> <p>Also, holding the only public hearings to discuss the maps at 4 pm on a Tuesday does not show a sincere attempt to engage citizens and get their input.</p> <p>An independent organization should be formed to manage this process as it is obvious neither party in our state is willing to honor the citizen's voice.</p> <p>If our representatives believe they need to rig elections to win, that pretty much says it all.</p> <p>As enough time was not given for citizens to thoroughly analyze the new maps I am asking the courts to refuse this remedy and assign an independent council to create them.</p>
3433		Aug 22 2017 9:34AM	Dr. Harlow Snyder	I object to the fact that \$50,000 of taxpayer money is going to Tom Hofeller to "fix" the problem he created in 2011. One GOP consultant redraws all these districts? We need more balanced input. If the GOP is interested in "bipartisanship" as it claimed to be when depriving Gov. Cooper of his powers to structure county and state boards of elections, then it should be bipartisan here too.
3434		Aug 22 2017 9:37AM	Ms. Amanda Height	<p>We, the people, are watching and we DEMAND fair maps!</p> <p>These maps should accomplish several goals: -districts should be compact geographically -maps should not favor incumbents unnecessarily -districts should be as close to equal in population as possible -incarcerated persons should be counted as constituents in their home district -maps should meet fairness (racially and politically) guidelines established by legal precedents -most importantly, maps should not hinder the election of candidates of choice by black voters</p> <p>Until these maps meet appropriate goals for fairness, you can expect to continue to hear public outcry and agitation. Why not simply set aside self-interest and racial bias and create fair maps now? Why wait for the court to impose maps when these are evaluated to fall short of the court-mandated goals? Why do you continue to waste time and taxpayer money in your effort to illegally hold onto power through racial bias?</p> <p>We see you! And we see you falling short. Do better.</p>
3435		Aug 22 2017 9:37AM	Mrs. Ava Williamson	<p>The new maps, released days before the Sept. 1 deadline after months of time to prepare and release them, do not fix the gerrymandering problem. They replace racial gerrymandering with partisan gerrymandering. This is not the democratic process: to permanently establish one party in power and then work to ensure that it stays, no matter what the majority of the voting population want.</p> <p>Please allow an independent redistricting of NC.</p>

3436		Aug 22 2017 9:37AM	Ms. Barbara Stanwick	This gerrymandering of Districts is so obvious and so out of control. Districts should run along accepted county and town lines which are already in place and generally known. If you can't win on your platform and your message, maybe the majority of the population just doesn't want you!
3437		Aug 22 2017 9:38AM	Ms. Glencie Rhedrick	As the Supreme Court has ruled the have been draw to weaken the voting strength of people of color. Now is the time to adhere to the court's decision and create a balance that gives every citizen an opportunity to experience fair and true representation in our government. Do the right thing!
3438		Aug 22 2017 9:39AM	Mr. VICTOR LANCASTER	From a review of the new maps drawn, clearly the Republican party cannot be relied upon to provide un-gerrymandered districts. Therefore we need to revert to the last know good districts of 2010 before they were redrawn as totally fair to all regardless of race, creed or color. These would only be effective until the 2020 census can be evaluated and districts redrawn based on those new demographics. Bests, Vic Lancaster
3439		Aug 22 2017 9:48AM	Mr. Michael Ogle	August 22, 2017 To: NCGA Redistricting Committee The 350 members of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro branch of the NAACP have a simple request: Make North Carolina a Democracy Again. We ask that the lawmakers of North Carolina’s legislature place the cornerstone of democracy -- equal representation and access to the ballot for all -- ahead of their impulse to hoard power. We believe this is a more than reasonable ask. Without that cornerstone, we do not have a democracy. We do not have a bipartisan government. We have extremism and marginalization. We have one-party rule. And unfortunately the redrawing of the state House and Senate districts so far looks to be a process that has little resemblance to democracy. Even if the maps were redrawn with fairness in mind, which does not appear to be the case, the process to make and review these maps, which were vigorously smacked down as racist by the courts, has been nakedly undemocratic. They’ve been redrawn in secret prior to receiving public comment, revealed with essentially no time for the public to evaluate them, no serious attempt was made to include input from anyone other than the Republican lawmakers. The voter data corresponding to the maps was not even released with the maps; instead it was released during the solar eclipse, one day before the public hearings. The hearings are being held during a workday and on the first day back to school for many parents.This is not what democracy looks like. The public hearings scheduled with limited notice appear to be little more than cover for plausible deniability against accusations of lacking transparency and participation. Barely any advance notice was given.
3440		Aug 22 2017 9:53AM	Cynthia Gibas	I have lived in North Carolina for 12 years. When I moved here, I was excited to be moving to such a great state. I'm a scientist; to people like me, North Carolina had an excellent reputation for commitment to public education and for fostering a dynamic biotechnology sector. However, 7 years of gerrymandered districts creating a GOP-dominated legislature have changed all that. Now North Carolina is a national laughingstock for disastrous policy like the bathroom bill, and we've seen legislative actions that hurt education, the environment, and future-oriented economic sectors like the film industry. Since I moved here, the districts that I have been assigned to have been packed so that my vote overall counts less than the vote of someone in a rural area, even though urban centers contribute a disproportionate amount to NC's economic growth and future well being. And that biased districting has produced some extreme, counterproductive policy. We need fair districts. Not Democratic-gerrymandered districts, mind you. That was also not good for the state. We need fair districts (both NCGA and US House) impartially drawn by a nonpartisan commission. The same algorithms that the NC GOP has used to gerrymander on partisan affiliation and race can easily be turned around to produce fair districts.
3441		Aug 22 2017 9:53AM	Mrs. Anna Richardson	Splitting Columbia County is an enormous mistake that will only cause more hardship for our county--one that has already been devastated by a failing economy and Hurricane Matthew. Brendan Jones is working hard to to raise our county from the dead, and this redistricting will only create more turmoil for us.
3442		Aug 22 2017 9:55AM	Ms. Vickie Pait	It would be detrimental to Columbus County to split the county. Please don't split Columbus Columbus NYT.

3443		Aug 22 2017 9:59AM	Mr. Mark Jewell	<p>August 21, 2017</p> <p>Dear Honorables,</p> <p>During your redistricting deliberations, NCAE members implore you to make sure the districts are fair and that the process is transparent, impartial, and non-partisan. Unfortunately, what we have seen of the maps and process up to this point doesn't meet those simple expectations. Once again, the new maps have been drawn to secure a supermajority for the party in power instead of giving the voters what they deserve—a fair and reasonable shot at choosing who represents them in a competitive election.</p> <p>For the last 25 years, nearly half of all legislative races have had only one candidate on the ballot, hardly a fair and reasonable expectation of electing who represents them. In last year's legislative election, just one of ten races were actually competitive—the other 90 percent where decided by double digits. This does not constitute a fair elections process. When the state is as evenly divided as it is, we should have a large number of competitive races.</p> <p>As a teacher, I would have to give the General Assembly an A for political gerrymandering and an F for a fair election and map drawing process. It's embarrassing in the political science textbooks when North Carolina is the poster child of gerrymandering. Just like we need to return our public school system to the beacon it once was, we should demand and expect more when it comes to creating fair redistricting maps and fair elections.</p> <p>That's why NCAE supports the creation of an independent redistricting commission, which would give us the best chance at an impartial and</p>
3444		Aug 22 2017 10:03AM	Ms. Erin Zanders	<p>Legislative leadership did not provide adequate time for a review of the proposed maps and the supporting data. It is, however, plain that extreme partisanship and race were used to determine these new district lines, again giving an unfair advantage to Republican candidates for office and Republican voters. The efficiency gap is well above the level that experts say is unconstitutional. These maps do not resolve the constitutional problems that the Legislature was ordered to address. The public was not given a chance to comment on the criteria used for redrawing these maps, and using the 2011 maps as a starting point was unreasonably problematic, given that those maps were unconstitutionally racially gerrymandered. You cannot pass new districts that have the same problems as the old ones. All of us deserve an equal voice at the table for our state elections.</p>
3445		Aug 22 2017 10:03AM	Mrs. Theresa Sharpe	<p>It is time to put an end to illegal,Racist manipulation of Districts to accommodate Republicans.</p>
3446		Aug 22 2017 10:03AM	Mrs. Dawn Hintgen	<p>The redistribution g process should be done in a way that is transparent, fair for all demographics, and leaves time for public comment before becoming permanent. Anything short of that goes against the reality that you elected officials work for the people who elected you, not for yourselves.</p>
3447		Aug 22 2017 10:04AM	Elizabeth Havice	<p>I am writing to inform you about my concern with the transparency of NC redistricting process. As you know, the new maps were recently released and there are plans for the Redistricting Committee to vote this Thursday and the House this Friday. The only date for public input is today during business hours. I would have very much liked to attend the public session, but today is the first day of classes at UNC, Chapel Hill, where I work. Of course, others that work in any location will also have limited ability to attend this very important session. I would like to have it documented that there is only one speaking opportunity and that it was schedule for a Tuesday afternoon when most people will be unable to attend and that there was also very limited advance notice of this meeting, making it difficult or impossible for people to make arrangements to be able to participate.</p>
3448		Aug 22 2017 10:10AM	Ms. Katherine Capehart	<p>I'm appalled to see that the newly "redrawn" maps look almost like the old ones. What happened to a fair redistricting process and fair maps? It's time for a fundamental change in the way we draw our maps. I demand an impartial, bipartisan committee be formed and tasked with redrawing these mans.</p>
3449		Aug 22 2017 10:10AM	Mr. Mark Garvin	<p>The redistricting for both house and senate should be done, as closely as possible, on a nonpartisan basis. This will ensure proper representation and vote validity for all citizens of North Carolina.</p>

3450		Aug 22 2017 10:12AM	Ms. Charlotte Collins	This state has a duty to all its citizens to remove the stain of voter suppression. Voter suppression has a long, sordid and violent history, going back to when Democratic Party vigilantes terrorized newly enfranchised African-American citizens in the 1960's, signaling the end of the Reconstruction period here in North Carolina and the entire south. It is no secret that legislators in this state consider the redistricting process an opportunity to advantage themselves in upcoming elections. Elected officials admit it. The biased viewpoint is that the Democrats "own" the African-American vote, so why not weaken the impact of their vote to enhance Republican numbers in the General Assembly. Now, that's the action they take when they are in power. The impact is that there are so-called safe districts in which Republicans owe their constituents little if any accountability. This is not what democracy should be for citizens regardless of ethnic category, but this is where we are in NC. Republicans cry, "the Democrats did it when they were in power". Maybe that's true. The answer is to place the grave responsibility of redistricting in the hands of a non-partisan group. The current process will never be trusted if it's in the hands of the same group that the federal court said suppressed the African American vote with "almost surgical precision".
3451		Aug 22 2017 10:12AM	Mr. Sid Miller	Good morning, I'm writing as a concerned citizen of Columbus County. Dividing our county is not the right choice. We need cohesiveness...not division. Please reconsider these new redistricting lines. Thank you, Sid Miller
3452		Aug 22 2017 10:12AM	alan thompson	I ask that you not divide Columbus County up the way it is currently proposed. The residents will not receive fair representation as the representative will always be focused on Pender County. Thank you.
3453		Aug 22 2017 10:13AM	Mr. Reuel Castillo	Since the courts have declared that the districts composed by the legislature were demonstrably drawn to marginalize minority voters, why should the legislature be trusted to redraw them with a different intent and outcome? Why hasn't the legislature left the redrawing to a non-partisan commission to ensure the districts aren't gerrymandered?
3454		Aug 22 2017 10:14AM	Lorna Barnett	Redistricting must be done by an independent group to avoid any racial or partisan gerrymandering. Districts should be based on geographic common sense. The terrible practice of gerrymandering was begun by Democrats and perfected by Republicans. It's time for the stability of non-partisan Districts for all political seats.
3455		Aug 22 2017 10:15AM	Mr. Josh Carroll	To whomever it may concern, who even thinks this is a great idea? When I first read the article, my first thought was "what? why?" I don't want anyone representing my county that doesn't live here, much less, having one half controlled by someone else. I'm sure there are other counties that feel the same that you are considering splitting as well.
3456		Aug 22 2017 10:16AM	Mrs. rebecca brady	Once again the NCGA has cheated the voters. First, by hiring the same manipulator who made the first UNCONSTITUTIONAL maps. No sensible person would suggest giving him the responsibility again after his first attempt was overturned by the courts. Second, by not being transparent with the process. Third, by not giving adequate time for public input. THE ONLY FAIR WAY TO DO THIS IS BY HAVING A NON PARTISAN COMMITTEE DO THE WORK IN A TRANSPARENT WAY AND THEN GIVING PLENTY OF TIME FOR THE PUBLIC AND COURTS TO SEE AND STUDY THE NEW MAPS. NON PARTISAN!!!!!! No democracy in the world outside of the US allows elected politicians to draw the lines. Please respect the will of the voters and respect democracy.
3457		Aug 22 2017 10:16AM	Kathleen Knopeck	As a citizen concerned about the enormous responsibility of making sure that these maps are fair and just, I am asking that great care be taken to insure that every citizen has the opportunity to be part of this process. We need to allow ample time for everyone to study the affects that these maps will have on our election process. Failure to do so will be an abuse of power by our legislature.
3458		Aug 22 2017 10:17AM	Ms. Lyn Lacy	This process was ludicrous! The racial gerrymandering continues unabated, and the citizens of NC are outraged. Stand up for what is right to do! Stop the passage of this flawed map!
3459		Aug 22 2017 10:23AM	Ms. Diana Garcia	The fact that you have hired the same alleged "expert" to redraw the maps that were racially biased and therefore illegal shows an unwillingness to abide by democratic principles and the law. An independent commission should be appointed to redraw the maps immediately if you dare to call yourselves democratic legislators.
3460		Aug 22 2017 10:24AM	Leslie Gaidi Schunk	My husband and I strongly urge you to adopt new rules for redistricting that are not gerrymandered by race or political affiliation. New maps should be drawn that comply with the Voting Rights Act, saving the state money we have squandered due to lawsuits resulting from unconstitutional gerrymandering in the past. We ask for a fair, new process for dividing districts!
3461		Aug 22 2017 10:26AM	Dr. Christian Lentz	I write to register my concern with the limits that the NC legislature has placed on the public comment period for redistricting. Just one day is not enough for all to participate. Further, the vast majority of people must work in places distant from sites of comment. As a result of these sharp limits on public participation, the comments that are registered today will only reflect a small minority of public views.

3462		Aug 22 2017 10:27AM	Stephen Jaffe	Dear Colleagues, I beg you to to consider non-partisan redistricting for our beloved state. Non-partisan redistricting is widely supported by Republicans, Democrats, and Independents. Following the Voting Rights Act, our system should allow African-Americans to choose their representatives of choice, using "one person, one vote" without the cracking and packing which recent redistricting has used to further one party. Districts should be roughly equal in population and keep counties as whole as possible, without the obviously partisan "tentacles" we've seen. You have a hard job, especially considering the districts you now represent have been declared unconstitutionally drawn by the US Supreme Court. I urge you to come together for the good of North Carolina's citizens, and to remember that our precious democracy is fragile. To hold together a legitimately elected legislature, elected leaders must derive their power from the consent of the governed. I wish you godspeed.
3463		Aug 22 2017 10:30AM	Ms. Emily Kahn	<p>Dear General Assembly Members-</p> <p>I am appalled at how you have chosen to run the redistricting process. Releasing the maps so close to the deadline and allowing only 1 day of meetings for public comment goes against what a democratic republic stands for. Also, to draw the new maps you went back to the same source who created the maps that the courts struck down. What about that is supposed to gain public trust?</p> <p>I want my state government to represent the people of our state. That means a fair competition for seats so that all of votes count. Right now, your maps encourage a race to the extreme right in primaries which means these opinions are overly represented in the GA.</p> <p>Instead of this ridiculous game of gerrymandering, North Carolina must lead the way by creating a neutral body to redraw maps to create fair competition for the General Assembly. Let every vote count! What are you so scared of with that process?</p> <p>I know, I know, you are already saying in your head "but they..." Let the past be the past and be leaders for our state now. Go back to the drawing board and allow a neutral body to create the map.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Emily Kahn</p>
3464		Aug 22 2017 10:31AM	Ms. Susan Archer	Nothing is more foundational to our nation than our democratic principles, each eligible voter gets one equal vote. Districting needs to be as balanced as possible, NEVER BASED ON PARTY AFFILIATION OR RACE. Please act responsibly as thiese urgently important criteria are examined and proposed boundaries considered. The most recent proposal does NOT do this well. Please do not accept this. Let us work until we get it right. Please stand up for ALL voters and please remember that our children are watching to see if we actually value every person's voice.
3465		Aug 22 2017 10:32AM	Ms. Bhavneet Birdi	<p>Gerrymandering should be illegal.</p> <p>Elections should be fair and equal. Every citizen's voice should be heard. Gerrymandering does not allow every citizen's voice to be heard. Democrats and Republicans should be heard equally. However, Republicans in office think differently -- they redrew the North Carolina voting maps to directly benefit themselves. There is no way to excuse this.</p> <p>Even the U.S. Supreme Court upheld a lower-court ruling that North Carolina lawmakers relied too much on race when redrawing two congressional districts after the 2010 census.</p> <p>If you believe in greed, power and suppressing people's right to vote you will vote to leave the maps as is. Hopefully, you do not vote for this.</p> <p>If you believe in Democracy you will vote to redraw these voting maps and have a independent, unbiased party to be responsible for redistricting the maps.</p> <p>Please do the right thing,</p> <p>Sincerely,</p>

3466		Aug 22 2017 10:33AM	Mrs. Barbara Hapgood	<p>Please stop the gerrymandering. I am writing to beg the General Assembly to stop blatantly drawing maps that are racially and politically motivated. We the people want fair maps, good access to the polls, and the opportunity to elect people that share our values. You had an opportunity to finally end the cycle of gerrymandering by listening to the overwhelming majority of NC citizens who want fair and impartial standards for creating our voting districts. Instead, the the new maps ignore nonpartisan redistricting criteria. House Speaker Tim Moore and Senate President Pro Tem Phil Berger are on the record in support of nonpartisan redistricting - they should follow through with their past requests and create nonpartisan motivated maps.</p> <p>We the people, the citizens of North Carolina, deserve better. We deserve fairness, rather than partisan political games, on something as important as the creation of our congressional and legislative districts.</p> <p>If you cannot do your job in creating a fair and just society, then you should not be in office as a representative of ALL THE PEOPLE of North Carolina.</p>
3467		Aug 22 2017 10:33AM	Clara J Cartrette	Ridiculous, shameful, spiteful movement on the part of the GOP legislative body. Voters won't forget these actions before the next election.
3468		Aug 22 2017 10:34AM	Dr. Mindy Oshrain	Most citizens of North Carolina are disgusted with gerrymandered districts, first on the basis of race and now to maintain one party's dominance in the NCGA. An independent consultant should draw the districts based on new mathematical modeling, not by the same partisan person who drew the discriminatory districts in 2011. This rigging of the system is tantamount to large scale voter suppression and must end.
3469		Aug 22 2017 10:36AM	John Wiseman	Fair and representative elections are the hallmark of a truly democratic republic. What this body has in the past and from my analysis attempting to do at present is to marginalize the citizenry of this state through racial and political gerrymandering. As the courts have definitively stated; you are guilty of racial gerrymandering. By gerrymandering for party advantage, you are still guilty of racial gerrymandering. I say this due to the overwhelming volume of bigoted, white supremacist legislation that comes from this and recent past GAs. The effort by the majority in both chambers to promote a discriminatory caste system and what is essentially slavery is abhorrent. Allowing a few wealthy PACs to guide this state and country in such a morass. Hiring the same firm to edit the previous rendition shows just how insincere you actually are to the spirit of democracy. John Wiseman
3470		Aug 22 2017 10:36AM	Mrs. Andrea Marea	<p>SHERRILYN IFILL, NAACP, said it better than I ever could this past Sunday on "Face The Nation". Here's a part of her comments that I feel speak to the issue of fair voting:</p> <p>"...when we see state legislatures convening to pass voter suppression laws, that is white supremacy. That is an effort to try and deny the civil rights of African-Americans and Latinos.....we also have to recognize the role that we play and that elected leaders play in setting policies that further white supremacy for the purpose of their own political gain. And my hope is that Congress and that governors and that state legislatures will be prepared in this moment to take on the responsibility themselves of demonstrating that they want no traffic with white supremacy." Ms. Ifill's entire commentary can be seen here:</p> <p>https://www.cbsnews.com/news/face-the-nation-august-20-transcript-tim-scott-tim-kaine/</p>
3471		Aug 22 2017 10:37AM	Mr. Jerome Brown	The redrawing of maps needs to be an open, fair , process. I do not understand why this is such a difficult matter to take place. It seems to me that both sides can sit down and hammer out a fair mapping that will be of benefit to the citizens of North Carolina. Polls indicate that North Carolina citizens are in favor of a non-partisan approach to tackling the mapping process . Why this does not happen remains a conundrum. This is a tremendous opportunity for the powers that be to show true leadership and get this done in a participatory manner rather than the ongoing partisan divide that exists currently. Thank you. Jerome Brown, Chairman, Wake County Voter Education Coalition - 8/22/2017
3472		Aug 22 2017 10:37AM	Ms. Kumi Smith	<p>Dear General Assembly Members-</p> <p>This redistricting process is making a mockery of NC democracy as we know it. One day for meetings and public comment to review the fairness of the redrawn maps (which are not so much redrawn as just "redone" by the same source as the initial maps) is not what we your constituents had in mind when we heard fair redistricting.</p> <p>Instead of this ridiculous game of gerrymandering, North Carolina must lead the way by creating a neutral body to redraw maps to create fair competition for the General Assembly. Let every vote count! What are you so scared of with that process?</p> <p>Best,</p> <p>Kumi Smith</p>
3473		Aug 22 2017 10:39AM	Dr. Maria Salgado	To have fair elections one must have fair voting districts. Redistrict fairly. No political considerations

3474		Aug 22 2017 10:43AM	Mr. Don Warren	North Carolina is becoming a joke among my friends who don't live here. A failed democracy in progress. Please give me a reason to be proud of my home state again, instead of continuing the slide towards Central-American banana republic. Redistrict fairly, and let the free market of ideas determine who gets sent to the NCGA.
3475		Aug 22 2017 10:43AM	Ms. Katharine Cannon	Both political and racial gerrymandering are below the dignity of a truly representative government. Gerrymandering by either party needs to stop if people are to believe in the democratic process. The extreme gerrymandering that the Republican party has brought us in recent years has only increased the harsh divisions in our country and discourages people from voting. The proposed plan brings little improvement. We need non-partisan and fair districts across the state so that there can be legitimate debate on issues and so that common people will have a voice in their government.
3476		Aug 22 2017 10:46AM	Mrs. Lisa Carter	I would like to express my supreme dissatisfaction at the process Republicans have once again used to redraw the state's voting districts. Instead of engaging in a bipartisan, transparent process, they have used the same veteran Republican mapmaker who drew the last racially gerrymandered maps. If you were truly interested in fair redistricting, you would have chosen someone different. I sincerely hope that you will listen to comments from your constituents and come up with a truly fair map after all is said and done. I am a female, small business owner who most of my life has voted Republican, but I am so disgusted with the antics and exclusionary tactics of the Republicans in NC that I am embarrassed to be a part of this state. Please find a conscience and do the right thing - not for yourselves, but for the citizens of NC. If you can't win fair and square, then you don't deserve to be in office.
3477		Aug 22 2017 10:46AM	Ms. Suzanne Langlois	Gerrymandering voting districts does not result in fair or effective government. Citizens deserve representation from officials who are familiar with the issues that most concern them.
3478		Aug 22 2017 10:46AM	Ms. Jennie Leichtling	There is nothing about this entire process that I trust. As an extremely concerned citizen in NC, I feel that my vote doesn't count here. These districts have been planned so that Republicans have a significant advantage. It is disheartening and discouraging to see that the Republicans in control of this process have gone back to the same firm to create these maps who was just proven to use data in a racist manner in the 2011 creation of these maps. North Carolina should have a bi-partisan committee oversee the creation of these maps so they fairly represent the state and its constituents.
3479		Aug 22 2017 10:48AM	Ms. Elena Noble	It is imperative to establish an independent, impartial, non-partisan re-districting commission to re-draw maps for legislative seats, local elections, state judges, and the Boards of Commission and Education. At its' core, gerrymandering is voter suppression, oppression and bigotry. It is important for this non-partisan, independent re-districting commission to: use scores based on population to determine compactness; protect communities of color; split precincts for population reasons only (not for partisan advantage). In addition, incumbents should not be protected by maps nor should there be a total black voting age population of greater than fifty percent. Please protect a free and fair democracy by establishing an independent non-partisan re-districting commission. Thank you for your time and consideration.
3480		Aug 22 2017 10:48AM	Mr. Bob LaGarde	We should enact NC House bill 200 and establish an independent redistricting commission but better yet, the Supreme Court should end partisan gerrymandering altogether and demand mathematically balanced redistricting. Over 50 years ago the courts recognized that the mathematical realities of population changes undermined the one man, one vote principle of democracy. But the Court's decision left open the loophole boundary manipulation resulting in partisan isoperimetric inequality. Think about this like the practice of medicine. We have developed excellent tools for imaging the human body and no surgeon would engage in surgery without using such tools and methods to precisely identify the area to be operated on. We have the same sort of tools and methods for drawing democratically fair non-partisan voting districts and there is simply no reason conceivable reason in the world to not use them.
3481		Aug 22 2017 10:56AM	Mr. Charles Deaton	The proposed new districts for both the house and senate are unacceptable partisan gerrymanders that undermine our state's democracy. Please drop these maps, and instead adopt redistricting criteria that mandate non-partisan creation of districts that will be competitive and improve our democracy.
3482		Aug 22 2017 10:57AM	Stephanie Walker	Gerrymandering is wrong, no matter who is doing the gerrymandering. This state is almost equally split by party votes, but what you are doing is TAKING the advantage to stack the deck so you can pass your agenda AGAINST the will of the people. Districting should be done fairly and the people should be deciding and voting for candidates, not parties and NOT big money. This is not a democracy and the will of the people is not being honored. The courts have decided that what you people did was unconstitutional. That means we've had an unconstituational legislature for 7 years! You should all be ashamed at what you are doing to this state that I love. STOP GERRYMANDERING NOW!!

3483		Aug 22 2017 10:58AM	Lee Langston	<p>I will say that a small a former Republican and now unaffiliated biter that I am disappointed in the way the initial districting was handled and the way the revisions and responses to to the court rulings have been handled. It is clear that the members of the general assembly are running out the clock while passing laws to benefit them and that hurt the people of this state.</p> <p>I also am just old enough to remember when the democrats controlled everything and the republicans begged to have a non-partisan commission set up, but were denied by the party in power. Now is the chance to set a lasting legacy of fairness to the voters and people of this state. One that will benefit the current republicans as well as it is pretty obvious to a thinking person that things will be shifting soon and the ability to control the state on the backs of rural districts and a few gerrymandered urban ones will disappear.</p>
3484		Aug 22 2017 10:59AM	Gloria Whisenhunt	<p>Local government Works better for its citizens when General Assembly members represent the entire cities and towns. Please help with this problem.</p> <p>Race should not play a role in the decision!!!!!!</p>
3485		Aug 22 2017 11:07AM	Ms. Eileen Frost	<p>I oppose the new redistricting plan. Please vote against it, and arrange for another commission to start afresh and pleded to equity for the citizens of NC.</p>
3486		Aug 22 2017 11:07AM	Mr. Michael Lee	<p>What will the gain be for each district? What is the ultimate reason for the re-districting? It appears to me that we as a county is divided enough.</p>
3487		Aug 22 2017 11:08AM	Mrs. Kristen Hernandez	<p>I am writing to voice my concern over the redistricting process: The GOP-led team that is making the new maps is already engaging in a lot of bait-and-switch, smoke-and-mirrors activity that prevents transparency - a sure sign that they are planning to screw up the maps once again.</p> <p>What are you guys afraid of? The VOTERS? Well, you should be. We are sick and tired of your gerrymandering and your lies to the voters. We're sick of you enriching your own pockets and then taxing us to death to make up the shortfalls in the budgets. You are crooked through and through, and the ONLY way you've managed to stay in office, is through CRIMINALLY gerrymandering the districts to give yourselves unfair advantage, and then CRIMINALLY ignoring the Federal Court's ORDER that you re-draw the maps in a more fair manner.</p> <p>I'm sick of your shenanigans. Your time in office is getting shorter. In order to be fair, new maps must be compact, contiguous, and must comply with the Voting Rights Act to give minority voters an opportunity to elect their candidates of choice.</p> <p>The maps must also be free from partisan politics, ignoring voter registration data and past election results. They must also ignore incumbent addresses, to avoid intentionally “double-bunking” two incumbents in order to force one of them out of office.</p> <p>If you are not up to the job, then give it to an INDEPENDENT COMMITTEE of NONPARTISAN groups who are CAPABLE of being fair and actually keeping the elections from becoming the shams you criminals have wrought on this fair state.</p> <p>NC is watching you. The nation is watching NC. Don't screw this up.</p>
3488		Aug 22 2017 11:09AM	Dr. Belinda Novik	<p>I traveled much of this great state yesterday to view the solar eclipse in South Carolina. I could see how living in Chapel Hill gives one a skewed perspective of the state. I saw towns with most of their downtown's shuttered and closed near other towns, like Southern PInes showing great prosperity. I saw miles of agricultural land with large farming operations evident. What I didn't see was anyone helping bring actual jobs back to those failing mill towns, or health care and hope to the people left behind in poverty. This legislature voted to keep our citizens from gaining access to ACA federal dollars. It voted to keep our rainbow citizens from being fully protected, and it continues to rape and pillage our resources without providing basic needs for so many. The ridiculous gerrymandered districts contribute to the disenfranchisement of our citizens rights. The new proposed districts are little improvement. You can, and must do better so the all the citizens of our state are represented and respected. Thank you.</p>
3489		Aug 22 2017 11:10AM	Mrs. Anne Maultsby	<p>Please leave the district like it is and do not change map.</p>

3490		Aug 22 2017 11:15AM	Mr. Sal Scarfone	<p>Redistricting is in every sense is just another word for Voter Suppression....a means to use maps to direct the outcome of an election. It is also a way to ensure that a political party and an incumbent is provided with every possible advantage for holding onto his/her seat regardless of their willingness or ability to perform on behalf on ALL their constituents. It is also a way to create divisions among communities on the basis of race, ethnic backgrounds, and/or political affiliations. I see nothing good about it in an America that is becoming even more deeply divided.</p> <p>On a national basis, this has become even more obvious as the House of Representatives has become a laughing stock with almost no ability to generate legislation that serves all Americans. it is not until you get to the Senate, where gerrymandering is not possible as a political tool, that a more level headed approach is taken toward governing and doing what is right across a broader spectrum of voters. If it is only the fear of losing their positions that drives politicians to do the right things, than we cannot mitigate that fear by allowing those same politicians to determine who their constituents are. And, is it really necessary that courts have to decree gerrymandering as a form of racism and order a fair approach to assigning voting districts before our representatives actually do the right thing.</p> <p>In the end self preservation of this kind in politics is simply selfish and self serving. Honest and moral men would serve the state of North Carolina by doing what's right when it comes to drawing districts, and not just what is right for themselves or their political party. It is this win at all costs mentality in politics that has now produced an environment where debate of whether or not Naziism is or isn't allowed in our country is seemingly in play. How do we get here? For that answer, one need only look at how gerrymandering has become</p>
3491		Aug 22 2017 11:18AM	Michelle Young	Senate redistricting maps that cover where I live are still gerrymandered. I live in Northern Wake County, but our area is zoned to be with Franklin County, a much more rural area. I can only believe that this was intentionally designed to continue a Republican supermajority. As a voter, I am disturbed that I will not have a representative or senator in my area that truly represents our neighborhood or community in the state government.
3492		Aug 22 2017 11:18AM	Dr. David Heller	I am writing to express my opposition to the redistricting proposal that would split Columbus County into two districts. There is no way that a representative from Pender County could properly represent Columbus County. Please keep our county as one district so that we can keep our county unified and well represented. Thank you.
3493		Aug 22 2017 11:21AM	Dr. Kaaren Haldeman	As a NC voter of over two decades, I ask that the NCGA draw maps fairly, once and for all, using a bipartisan independent commission. I have reviewed the process and outcome of both House and Senate versions of the maps and disagree that they are in any way fair nor that they allow for full participation in our democracy. I have been increasingly disturbed by the boldness of Republican leaders to literally dis-empower minority voters in North Carolina. Our GOP leaders have forgotten their civic responsibility to govern and lead our nearly evenly divided state in terms of party. Finally, at a time when racial healing and advancement for all is at the forefront of our battle as a nation, I ask that the NCGA dig deeply to find their moral compass and their patriotism as leaders of the most powerful democracy in the world. When both are made weaker by racially and extreme partisan gerrymandering, it diminishes our power and us all as neighbors in this great state.
3494		Aug 22 2017 11:25AM	Mrs. Ursula Vernon	If you have to cram voters into weird shaped boxes to win, then your ideas are pretty obviously non-competitive. You're here to represent the will of the people. Let the shape of the districts represent the people, not your own hone for power.
3495		Aug 22 2017 11:27AM	Mr. Joseph Hartman	<p>Fellow North Carolina Citizens,</p> <p>We shouldn't let the cheaters make the rules. So we shouldn't let the political parties in North Carolina make the voting district maps.</p> <p>A fair solution is to pick 100 registered voters randomly in North Carolina who are not affiliated with any political party.</p> <p>Task them to draw fair voting districts, with the assistance of an advisory panel of statisticians.</p> <p>Let their maps be reviewed by a panel of North Carolina judges.</p> <p>Do this every 10 years when there is a new U.S. Census.</p> <p>Again, let's not let the politicians draw the voting maps.</p> <p>Thanks.</p> <p>Joe Hartman Raleigh, NC</p>

3496		Aug 22 2017 11:29AM	Mr. Patrick McCaully	It is time for reform in the redistricting process. Our democracy cannot survive the continued process of gerrymandering pursued by both parties in North Carolina over the past 50 years. We need a non-partisan body to go in and draw maps purely based on population; not political persuasion, not race, not age, not creed, just population. They should be as square as possible while allowing for even distribution of representation. Only then can we have free and fair elections that are truly representative of the citizens of North Carolina.
3497		Aug 22 2017 11:38AM	Ms. Ann Von Brock	I do not live in one of the districts being required by the Courts to be redrawn. I live in District 10 and I live in Asheville. However, our district is another example of very convoluted drawing as a way to disenfranchise voters. In our case, Asheville voters. We have been cut off from our obvious geographic region and aligned with Gaston County – not even a neighboring county. The time has come to eliminate Gerrymandering. We need logical nonpartisan drawing of all districts in NC. That is the only way we can possibly elect officials who come into office prepared to actually cooperate and build coalitions across party lines around issues.
3498		Aug 22 2017 11:40AM	Ms. Delfina Fernandez	North Carolina needs fairer maps for the good of everyone.
3499		Aug 22 2017 11:43AM	Ms. Lynn Maust	In order to be fair, new maps must be compact, contiguous, and must comply with the Voting Rights Act to give minority voters an opportunity to elect their candidates of choice. The maps must also be free from partisan politics, ignoring voter registration data and past election results. They must also ignore incumbent addresses, to avoid intentionally “double-bunking” two incumbents in order to force one of them out of office. Unfortunately, the new redistricting process is too partisan to ensure that fair maps are drawn. The maps are being drawn behind closed doors, and voters are not being given sufficient time to review any proposed maps before the public hearings. At the end of the day, these maps are still being drawn by the same GOP lawmakers and consultants using the same software as the previous maps, and approved by the unconstitutional legislature that was elected using those racially gerrymandered maps. For years, Republicans have waged a three-pronged war on democracy through racial and partisan gerrymandering, unconstitutional assaults on voting rights, and partisan meddling with the judicial system. Unfortunately, the new redistricting process is simply another part of that assault on democracy.
3500		Aug 22 2017 11:45AM	Mrs. Nan Nixon	Please go back to the drawing board. Under the proposed new maps bout 90% of the new General Assembly districts are solidly tilted to favor one party or another – mostly to the advantage of the Republican mapmakers. The map drawing process was a farce and is only a slight improvement over the current maps that the courts have struck down. We need fair maps now that will allow voters to express their support for the policies that are being adopted in Raleigh. Thank you.
3501		Aug 22 2017 11:45AM	Mr. Alan Field	Hi, As a citizen of North Carolina, I am appalled by the way that both parties have played political games with district map drawing. The maps in the state should be drawn using nonpartisan redistricting to accurately represent all citizens without regard to political party affiliation, race, religion, or any other class. I urge the Senate and House to pass House Bill 200 and Senate Bill 209. It's time to get the government working again for all North Carolinians and to stop playing games with the district maps. Thank you, A. Alan Field
3502		Aug 22 2017 11:47AM	Dr. Barry Katz	Dear Elected Officials: Your redistricting obligation was promulgated by racially biased past redistricting. This underlying racism has been with us from the beginning of our country's founding. It is time to put an end to it. As legislative bodies, you represent ALL the people of our state and you can demonstrate your awareness of this by drawing districts that are racially fair, respect county boundaries, and balance populations so that "one person, one vote" is maintained. You can make history or you can make sausage... and we are already fed up. Thank You
3503		Aug 22 2017 11:48AM	Mr. Robert O'Connor	New maps are as bad as the last partisan maps, completely unfair and unconstitutional. NC has to find a new way for fair, unbiased redistricting instead of this single party take all farce that we are currentlv enaaaed. If not let the courts decide!!!
3504		Aug 22 2017 11:53AM	Laura Flaherty	I strongly support the move to have the redistricting handled by an independent panel and not partisan politicians. Thank you for hearing our voices, Laura Flaherty
3505		Aug 22 2017 11:54AM	Ms. Chris Ekstedt	I have given input now but in retrospect i would like to simply summarize what I said before and make 2 main points: the fact that it was not done by an independent commission and is thereby automatically suspect and unacceptable. Also, the time given fot review was totally unacceptable. The entire process was illegitimate and the maps should be rejected. We need an independent commission to handle it. period

3506		Aug 22 2017 11:56AM	kathleen davidson	I do not believe this is a fair proposal, or that politicians should be the ones to draw up these maps unless there is a well balanced group. There has not been sufficient time for the maps to be considered, and even a brief review suggests that both political and racial gerrymandering is still happening. I know that both parties have been responsible for tipping the balance at various times, but this seems egregious, and I advocate for a balanced approach to this very important task.
3507		Aug 22 2017 12:03PM	Ms. Candace Young	Gerrymandering is inherently unAmerican in its unfairness. Government should never be stolen from its people. I am especially concerned about that districts be free from partisan politics (ignore voter registration data, past election results, incumbent addresses, etc.) and ensure maps are not drawn to unduly favor a particular party, candidate or lawmaker.
3508		Aug 22 2017 12:06PM	Marcia Prince	It is time for the ncgop to stop gerrymandering the state for their racist agenda
3509		Aug 22 2017 12:06PM	Marion Laske	I'm sure my opinion will fall on deaf ears, but the new redistricting maps are a joke. The people of NC demand and deserve to have totally bipartisan maps. These new maps ARE NOT BIPARTISAN!!! Try again
3510		Aug 22 2017 12:12PM	Ms. Bethany Pierce	Good afternoon, I'm writing as a resident of North Carolina who is concerned over the new legislative maps just released for public review. I'm concerned they do not do enough to end partisan and racial gerrymandering and are simply continuing to prohibit minorities from voting in the election process. It is also a complete outrage that the maps were released mere days before the comments are due, and with no voter data. The maps are nearly worthless without the data. Please take my comments under consideration when redistricting. I sincerely fear for the partisan future of this state. Bethany E Pierce
3511		Aug 22 2017 12:13PM	Mrs. Sara Thompson	Columbus county should stay all in District 46 We have nothing in common with Pender County as they are a Beach County. We have no beaches. Columbus county is a rural farming county. We do not need to be split.
3512		Aug 22 2017 12:13PM	Dr. Patrick Link	Democracy is not a tool to be used to maximize the power of one group of people over another. It's a tool to be used to allow the voices of the people to be heard. Your maps are a political gerrymander that diminish Democratic voices. It's not right and it serves only to further fracture our State's people. The maps should be thrown out and redone by a non-partisan commission.
3513		Aug 22 2017 12:15PM	Stephanie Bennett	The NC General Assembly continues to favor its own interests and not that of all North Carolina voters by perpetuating Republican districts. North Carolina for the last several elections has been a purple state - evenly divided, percentage-wise, between Republican and Democratic senators and presidential votes. And yet in the legislature, both chambers, the odds are weighted heavily in favor of the current Republican majority. The progressive voters of NC deserve to have our voices heard through representation that truly reflects the make-up of NC's electorate and residents. NC should join other states in creating an independent redistricting commission rather than the ongoing theatrics that harm the North Carolina electorate and soak up valuable tax dollars.
3514		Aug 22 2017 12:23PM	Mrs. John Thompson	Columbus County does not need to be divided and placed with Pender County.
3515		Aug 22 2017 12:26PM	Mr. Jeffrey Lakin	Due to the short period between the release of maps and this comment period, the review and analysis on them from myself or others is scant. This in and of itself is a problem, but given what we do know, there isn't much unexpected. The majority party has drawn the maps as closely as possible to the status quo to pass legal muster, protecting incumbents and preventing double bunking whenever possible. I don't blame them for this - legislators of any party or persuasion are going to act in self-preservation. Yet this is precisely why legislators should not be in the business of choosing their voters. The process can only be trusted as fair and just if turned over to a bipartisan and independent panel of appointed experts who don't have a direct stake in the outcome of the maps. The legislature could make this happen quite easily, they simply lack the political will, due to the self-perpetuating feedback loop of legislators selecting voters who will ensure their reelection while not making them face anything they don't want to hear. It is my sincere hope that this period of public comment represents an opportunity to break that cycle, as the NCGA hears from concerned citizens such as myself that want our state government to be fairly and democratically elected.
3516		Aug 22 2017 12:26PM	Mr. Leslie Lang	The NCGOP has done it again. The judges will toss it back in their faces due to large dollops of both racial and partisan gerrymandering. This maps signify a malignancy is once again among us. Hubris will not help re-election. NCGOP voter suppression in all it's cowardly forms will fail.
3517		Aug 22 2017 12:30PM	Mr. JE Thompson	Dividing Columbus County and placing us with Pender County would be a disaster for Columbus Residents. We need to be together as a county. We have nothing in common with the fine folk of Pender County.

3518		Aug 22 2017 12:30PM	Mr. Russell Haddad	The proposed districts continue to favor politics over fair access to voting. They should be thrown out and redrawn by an independent nonpartisan group. It was neither anymore right for Democrats to gerrymander districts than Republicans. Two wrongs don't make a right. Put the power back in the hands of the people and let them choose fairly who they want to represent them. No more stacked districts by either major party.
3519		Aug 22 2017 12:31PM	Marissa Peterson	The public should have been allotted more advance notice regarding their input in this crucial decision. I want racial gerrymandering in NC to END. It has been stated by the court that our districts target African American people, "with almost surgical precision." The only thing I'm asking for is fairness, re-draw the maps in a way that is fair to everyone, not to benefit any political party's votes. Also, Thomas Hofeller should NOT be a part of this process for obvious reasons.
3520		Aug 22 2017 12:34PM	Mr. Andrew Ballard	District boundaries drawn by independent, nonpartisan commission are the only acceptable solution in a healthy democracy. The state of our district boundaries in North Carolina is a national embarrassment. Fix this now.
3521		Aug 22 2017 12:35PM	Mr. Sean Nelligan	I am an independent voter and I strongly oppose gerrymandering voting districts. Our democracy is based upon non-partisan principles and drawing district lines must be likewise non-partisan. Gerrymandering will cause you, the party in power, to lose your mandate to govern and ultimately your majority.
3522		Aug 22 2017 12:39PM	Mrs. Dorothy Lebovitz	It's "We the People" not "We the Politician". Get rid of Gerrymandering, let the people chose their representatives.
3523		Aug 22 2017 12:39PM	Gloria Lawrence	The process that produced these maps was flawed and therefore the resulting maps are as well. It is interesting to me to note that the "map guru" couldn't find a way to protect our Republican Senator Shirley Randleman. And in splitting Surry will force two Republicans (Randleman and Ballard) to go head-to-head for a position! For shame, for shame! Even when you wasted tax payer money to fight the battle in the courts all the way to the Supreme Court, you dragged your feet in meeting the deadline until you could give the public so little notice that you thought we would not have time to pay attention. Please do not underestimate us! Sincerely, Gloria Lawrence
3524		Aug 22 2017 12:44PM	Mrs. Donna Anderson	The best solution for the citizens of North Carolina would be to have the districts drawn by nonpartisan leaders and have all county residents in the same district. Don't think "what's best for me and mine?" but what's best for all citizens of North Carolina.
3525		Aug 22 2017 12:46PM	Mrs. Rhonda Dreggors-Newport	In reviewing the criteria adopted for redistricting, the use of prior year(s) election results is inherently wrong. Congressional districts should be solely based upon population numbers and geographic contiguity in order to provide fair and adequate representation. The use of data regarding prior voting trends appears, to me, to be a direct attempt to draw districts which would provide a favorable voting climate to one party or another. This is wrong. Additionally, the very late notice and limited numbers of sites where meetings are being held on 8/22 preclude the participation of the majority of concerned voters in the state. On its surface, this would seem to have been done intentionally in order to limit the amount of public comment on the process.
3526		Aug 22 2017 12:53PM	Mrs. Jennifer Henley	Just as you would not want a sports competition to be won by cheating, you should not want an election to be won by "fixing" the election districts. Cheating is cheating regardless.
3527		Aug 22 2017 12:54PM	Ms. Donna Ambriano	I would like to know exactly what the population breakdowns are here. Using the exact same person who drew the gerrymandered maps to begin with to redraw them is more than a little suspicious, as is the lack of bipartisan inclusion. I tend to doubt that this new map will be fairly drawn or representative of the people who live here.
3528		Aug 22 2017 12:55PM	Ms. Miriam Thompson	The only fair way to honor the Federal courts' rulings and the GA's integrity, is to select a non-partisan and independent and reputable commission to redraw maps. The current process is deeply flawed. 1 The proposed revised district have been drawn by the very same consultant who drew the maps the courts overturned based on racial gerrymandering. 2. The process is further flawed by the lack of space and time offered for public study and comment - further eroding public confidence in the process. With the GA's record of voter suppression attempts, gerrymandering and additional work to disenfranchise voters - especially voters of color, that assures an unrepresentative government, now is the time to act nobly as publicly elected servants of the people.
3529		Aug 22 2017 12:57PM	Ms. Katie Poff	North Carolina deserves fair and non-partisan districts that accurately represent the voters. Gerrymandering on the basis of race as well as in order to unfairly protect or favor one party harms and disenfranchises the voters of North Carolina. Politicians should be held to account by their constituents and the only way to ensure this is by redistricting through an open, fair, and unbiased process.
3530		Aug 22 2017 12:57PM	Ms. Eleanor Penley	The Electoral Integrity Project gave our congressional districts the lowest in the nation. Please let our districts be drawn in a fair way that lets our voices be heard and democracy reign. http://www.newsobserver.com/opinion/op-ed/article122593759.html

3531		Aug 22 2017 12:59PM	Cathy Linn-Thorstenson	Please hear us. We are "the people". We are your people. We deserve to be heard. We listened to you and believed you when you said you would represent us. Please represent us. Please live up your office and your obligation by serving all the citizens of NC fairly. This time around the district should be drawn OBJECTIVELY AND FAIRLY. That is the right thing to do, that is the Christian thing to do and that is the morally correct thing to do. That is what your esteemed position demands of you. Please don't let us down again by actively engaging in gerrymandering of any sort, for any side. Let fairness rule. Please help NC serve as a role model for a country that was founded in fairness and freedom. Take partisanship out of our election process and return it to the moral high ground upon which it was founded. Thank you for doing your job.
3532		Aug 22 2017 1:01PM	Mr. Christopher Dragga	<p>The proposed maps for the new districts fail to comply with the Supreme Court's ruling. They continue to convolute the maps in an attempt to wring every last bit of partisan advantage available from North Carolina. Although they do not explicitly target race this time around, by seeking to maintain the balance of power that racial gerrymandering provided, they enforce the inequities that that gerrymandering created in the first place. The General Assembly's use of the same consultants to draw the maps as they previously did should provide a clue to their true intentions.</p> <p>The General Assembly should either withdraw these maps and provide new ones, or the federal court should reject them and appoint a neutral party to redraw the districts. As it stands, the General Assembly has shown little capability to be impartial, and the second</p>
3533		Aug 22 2017 1:05PM	Ms. Carynne Button	As a lifelong North Carolinian, I am deeply concerned about the process and outcome of the NCGA's new redistricting maps. The process was hidden from the public and by using the same consultant, the committee indicated that it did honestly attempt to improve NC's legislative districts. The outcome speaks for itself: the new maps continue extreme partisan and racial gerrymandering that does a disservice to the people of NC who deserve to have their voices fairly represented. As elected officials, it is your job to fairly represent the people of this sate, not to protect partisan interests that infringe on the democratic process. I demand that maps be redrawn by an independent, nonpartisan expert to ensure that NC can have fair elections in the future and that ALL people in this state are
3534		Aug 22 2017 1:07PM	Ms. Karen Rainey	Draw districts fairly so everyone's vote will count. Using voter suppression, gerrymandering and redistricting is not winning. It is actuallycheating. If you can't get enough votes from your constituents to win elections the honest way, then check your policies. Consider adopting policies that are fair to all, including the lower and middle classes, not just the rich and big business. Implement programs that will truly allow the citizens of this state opportunities to make a decent live for themselves and their families. That will help this state attract the best of the best, quality businesses who will bring jobs here, and working families who will spend on those products. Doing the right thing is a win-win for everyone.
3535		Aug 22 2017 1:08PM	Dawn Comfort	<p>NC badly needs partisan-blind districts drawn along geographic and community lines. This will benefit all NC citizens by allowing more moderate candidates from both parties to be elected.</p> <p>I am very concerned that the new maps do not meet that standard considering the lack of public information about them and the assistance of the same consultant who worked on the previous unconstitutional districts</p>
3536		Aug 22 2017 1:13PM	Ms. Susan Hasbrouck	If candidates can't be elected fairly then they don't deserve to be elected. End gerrymandering now. It's underhanded and akin to taking the ball home if you sense you can't win the game by playing.
3537		Aug 22 2017 1:13PM	Cathy Kirchin	I am requesting a link or information concerning the process used and the people involved in preparing the new proposals.
3538		Aug 22 2017 1:14PM	Bernadette Chasteen	<p>Voter districts must be free from partisan politics (ignore voter registration data, past election results, incumbent addresses, etc.) and ensure maps are not drawn to unduly favor a particular party, candidate or lawmaker</p> <p>The current redistricting process continues to be overly partisan and lacks transparency. Maps were drawn behind closed doors and voters were not given sufficient time to review proposed maps before scheduled public hearings.</p> <p>A majority of the Joint House & Senate Redistricting Committee is on the record as supporting nonpartisan redistricting in the past. And yet, the committee rejected nonpartisan redistricting standards now.</p> <p>Instead, these new maps once again perpetuate the cycle of gerrymandering. The proposed districts appear designed to give the majority party maximum advantage, shielding politicians from accountability to the public, while depriving voters of a choice and a voice at the ballot box.</p>

3539		Aug 22 2017 1:19PM	Ms. Vickie Atkinson	I am unable to attend the hearings today but I want to be heard. I am so frustrated and sad that the Legislature did not use this opportunity in redrawing the district maps to do so in a nonpartisan manner. The new maps will only feed into the sense that I and so many in NC have that our voices don't matter, that our votes don't count. By ignoring the call of so many people (and the surveys that back this up) the NCGA is continuing to chip away at democracy. It may have been excusable to some people earlier (though not to me) that partisan politics entered into redrawing the maps. But because of the computer precision with which maps may now be drawn it should be inexcusable that EITHER party draws the maps. We need an independent commission or some other nonpartisan way of redrawing maps. The current maps are not acceptable.
3540		Aug 22 2017 1:19PM	Ms. Olivia Allen-Price	<p>Gerrymandering in North Carolina has created a crisis where the elected officials do not truly reflect or respect the wishes of the people they govern. These new maps do little to solve that problem -- which I believe should be the TRUE goal of this redistricting process, not simply to fulfill the court requirements.</p> <p>Over my life, I have mostly been proud to live in the moderate state of North Carolina -- which doesn't teeter too far to the right or left. It's an approach that has helped our state grow and prosper. The 2011 redistricting changed that, and we saw the state government jerked right. I do not trust legislators of EITHER stripe, Republican or Democrat, to be involved in drawing legislative boundaries. Instead of paying a REPUBLICAN CONSULTANT to redraw these lines, the job should be handed over to non-partisan group whose interests lie not with a political party, but with the people. Though it may suit Republicans to operate this way while they are in power, they should consider the longterm consequences.</p> <p>I think many would agree that the political system in America is being ruined by money, political parties and the 24-hour news cycle. I hope North Carolina can start to turn that tide by making the right decision -- one that our forefathers would have made had they have known how things would devolve.</p>
3541		Aug 22 2017 1:19PM	Rebecca McPherson	We, the citizens, have worked extremely hard to unite our county. Please do not tear our county apart.
3542		Aug 22 2017 1:21PM	Dr. Carol MacKusick	<p>North Carolinians are tired of gerrymandering and the politicians who practice it.</p> <p>A new poll shows that four out of five North Carolina voters (80%) say it's not fair for politicians to draw their own districts. That includes 85% of Democrats, 74% of Republicans, 80% of independents – as well as 70% of Trump supporters and 80% of African Americans.</p> <p>The redistricting process must be open, avoid racial or partisan gerrymandering, and allow voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around.</p> <p>We should research the practices used in other states and adopt principles that encourage deep community involvement.</p> <p>Fair redistricting should follow these basic principles:</p> <p>Race is Key: Map drawers must ensure that it is possible for black voters to elect their candidates of choice, as required by the Voting Rights Act.</p> <p>“One person, one vote:” Districts must be very equal in population and obey other laws.</p> <p>Geographic Compactness: Map drawers must create compact districts, without odd tentacles. Districts must not skip over areas or join two areas at just one point.</p> <p>Count Incarcerated Persons as residents of their pre-incarceration home or family residence for purposes of redistricting.</p>
3543		Aug 22 2017 1:26PM	Mrs. Katherine Fogarty	I'm encouraged that there have been attempts to redraw the district voting maps. However, I, along with many other North Carolinians, am a bit disappointed in the rollout of this process. There has been no explanation given as to what criteria have been used, and therefore no way for us to judge for ourselves if the newly draw maps appear to be fair. You know that. That's not the American way; shine a light on the process and tell us why you think these new maps are fair and how they meet the requirements the court has set. You are doing yourselves and voters a disservice by not providing this information clearly. Publishing maps with no supporting materials, and doing it two days before public hearings, is not what we expect out of a true democracy.

3544		Aug 22 2017 1:28PM	Dr. Adrienne Cox	The new redistricting maps revealed on Saturday are clearly still egregiously unfair and clearly not made in good faith. They even redraw districts not addressed by the court order, and wrongly shift the existing imbalance even more in favor of the GOP supermajority. Our state deserves better. We want bipartisan good faith efforts to draw maps that allow constituents to select their representatives rather than the other way around. Even the process by which the new maps were put out was highly disrespectful of our state's voters. By cynically using the same mapper that generated the previous redistricting maps disallowed by the courts, by the secrecy of the process, by the lengthy delay in providing the new maps, by allowing only minimal time for review and analysis, by scheduling only a single day of public hearings - at the last minute and during a workday - with little opportunity for public input, the NC GOP has demonstrated that they are very aware that these new maps will also not stand up to bipartisan scrutiny. We demand reform that includes independent bipartisan redistricting, that allows real competition of ideas and a real opportunity for voters to make their voices heard in a meaningful manner. Any outcome predetermined by the maps, which is the outcome that this attempt at redistricting would generate, is downright unethical and should be swiftly reversed by the courts. The court should also provide strong guidance as to what is acceptable in future maps. Constant delay and redrawing also results in voter disenfranchisement. NC deserves better. We can do better. We demand better. Please do your jobs properly, be prepared to defend your goals and ideas through a competitive election process, and come through in good faith for the entire state.
3545		Aug 22 2017 1:28PM	Ms. Jessica Levasseur	<p>According to criteria passed a little over a week ago by the joint House and Senate redistricting committees, racial data was not considered in the redrawing process but political data was. This is unacceptable.</p> <p>I am deeply concerned about the partisanship and lack of transparency in this latest round of redistricting. The House and Senate maps were released very close to the commenting period, with barely any time for constituents to review the data used to create the maps.</p> <p>This MUST be a more transparent process, with political and racial data not used in the process of drawing the new districts.</p>
3546		Aug 22 2017 1:34PM	Lauren Burke	I'm furious that these maps continue to be gerrymandered to maintain an unfair, unrepresentative hand-out of districts to the Republican party. This is not democracy.
3547		Aug 22 2017 1:35PM	Ms. Susan Bender	Gerrymandering goes against the American ideal of every vote counting equally. The districts should be drawn by a bi-partisan commission. They should attempt to draw roughly equal blocks not crazy shapes which are clearly designed to benefit one party over another. Establishing fair, consistent redistricting laws will benefit all North Carolinians in the long run. Regardless of what party controls the House & Senate, every citizen will still be assured that their vote counts. I urge you to take action to ensure gerrymandering has no place in our state.
3548		Aug 22 2017 1:35PM	Dr. Joe Parry-Hill, Jr.	We need non-partisan redistricting to have voting maps that are compact, contiguous, and constitutional. Gerrymandering is still evident in the new maps.
3549		Aug 22 2017 1:39PM	Catherine Kastleman	The redistricting process must be open, avoid racial or partisan gerrymandering, and allow voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around. These new maps continue to be partisan, and the same lawmakers who used racial gerrymandering techniques (as ruled by a federal court) should not be allowed to redraw the new maps without oversight from the public. The public needs more advance notice in order to study these maps and make comments so that the will of the public can truly be implemented. We need a new, more transparent and fair process to redraw the maps so that all voices are actually heard and accounted for in our democracy - this process and these products are not acceptable. Thank you for your
3550		Aug 22 2017 1:41PM	Ms. Kimberley Rimmer	I am concerned that the same person who drew district maps last time is drawing them again this time. Partisan gerrymandering is still unacceptable. Elections should be more competitive so that more reasonable and compromising candidates prevail, rather than fringe candidates who do not best represent the people. I fear that the more we swing wildly right or left, the more disenfranchised and unrepresented a greater number of North Carolinians will be. If someone's ideas and platform are laudable and defensible, then why muddy the waters with unfair, uncompetitive redistricting? Please do the right thing; our democratic republic, along with everything it stands for, is at stake.

3551		Aug 22 2017 1:42PM	Kate Hill	<p>Hello!</p> <p>I am writing to express my current dismay over the still clearly gerrymandered new maps for the state house. Instead of working to develop a fair and unbiased mapping that was the result of work by a nonpartisan group, the legislature has decided to in fact make the maps MORE unfair, swinging over 11 districts more of favor of their party in a closely guarded process with little input from those outside of the inner circle of Republicans. People in the state, both Democrat, and Republican agree that this type of work does not benefit anyone in the long run. Please throw out these maps and work together to create realistic, non-partisan maps to enfranchise all of North Carolina's citizens, not just those whose party happens to be in power.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Kate Hill</p>
3552		Aug 22 2017 1:42PM	Dr. Philip Lawless	<p>In addition to the maps presented, the proposed districts should include numerical values for the woting efficiency gap. "The efficiency gap is simply the difference between the parties’ respective wasted votes in an election, divided by the total number of votes cast. Wasted votes are ballots that don’t contribute to victory for candidates, and they come in two forms: lost votes cast for candidates who are defeated, and surplus votes cast for winning candidates but in excess of what they needed to prevail. When a party gerrymanders a state, it tries to maximize the wasted votes for the opposing party while minimizing its own, thus producing a large efficiency gap. In a state with perfect partisan symmetry, both parties would have the same number of wasted votes."</p> <p>(https://newrepublic.com/article/118534/gerrymandering-efficiency-gap-better-way-measure-gerrymandering) This measure will likely be considered by the Supreme Court, so the people of NC deserve to</p>
3553		Aug 22 2017 1:45PM	Mr. Adrian Patrick	<p>The division of our county (Columbus) makes absolutely no sense. You are dividing counties to serve the purpose of votes, this is not right. We live in the same county but will have different representation. I do not agree and will not vote if our county is divided.</p>
3554		Aug 22 2017 1:45PM	Sarah Harmon	<p>I have studied the proposed redistributing maps and I do not think they have been improved to more bipartisan. A totally nonpartisan board needs to redraw these maps so that no political party has advantages over another.</p>
3555		Aug 22 2017 1:47PM	Mr. Richard Wynne	<p>The majority of Americans and the majority of North Carolinians oppose gerrymandering. After numerous lawsuits, the General Assembly has decided to ignore the will of the people by creating a new set of gerrymandered districts.</p> <p>The responses I've heard from the legislators range from "Let us handle this" to It isn't easy to create fair maps". The legislators did not pay a consultant \$50,000 to prepare fair maps; a high school civics class could prepare fair maps. They paid \$50,000 because it is difficult to create partisan maps that will appear fair to the general public but still ensure majority control.</p> <p>It is time for this to end. The public is tired of the divisions, the non-competitive races and the failure to govern, all of which are direct results of these unfair maps.</p> <p>Please reject these unfair maps and create truly non-partisan maps, so all of our votes can count.</p>
3556		Aug 22 2017 1:51PM	Karin Wiberg	<p>While the new maps may represent a marginal improvement over the last round, they still do not represent the will of the people of NC. I am strongly in favor of moving to a non-partisan redistricting process that emphasizes compact, logical districts.</p>
3557		Aug 22 2017 1:57PM	Ms. Brenda McGee	<p>New districts should be drawn in a nonpartisan way by a non partisan group. Neither Democrats nor Republicans should be in charge of this. Districts should be compact geographically as well as balanced. District should comply with the Voting Rights Act. It is absurd that we still have to say that but apparently we do.</p> <p>These maps were drawn behind closed doors without public input and your hearings are not spread all around the state. Craven County does not have one.</p> <p>Did you not get the message from the court decision? These new maps once again perpetuate the cycle of gerrymandering. The proposed districts appear designed to give the majority party maximum advantage,shielding politicians from accountability to the public, while depriving voters of a choice and a voice at the ballot box.</p> <p>This is not acceptable. Reject this and start over. Thank you.</p>
3558		Aug 22 2017 1:59PM	Jane Heuser	<p>Hello. I am concerned about the partisan redistricting process which negatively impacts voters of color across the state and leads to a dysfunctional state legislature. Please look closely at the new districts and ensure that they are fair and representative. Thank you.</p>

3559		Aug 22 2017 2:00PM	Mr. Andrew Hunsaker	<p>I find it absolutely insane that politicians have the ability to redraw their own districts in order to favor themselves politically. This is blatantly cheating the system designed to have free and fair elections in the United States of America, and even the conservative Supreme Court agrees that this behavior is illegal - and therefore criminal.</p> <p>This power must be divorced from the congress and put into the hands of independent administrators - NOT men like Thomas Hofeller who are well known for actively rigging these districts for maximum partisan advantage. If you have to bend over backwards to disenfranchise minority voters in order to preserve your precious positions of power, you have to seriously consider how your behavior is echoed by the white supremacists of Charlottesville, and how seriously reviled that behavior makes you. If you could put aside these craven acts of self-serving cowardice and work honestly to better our community, you'd stand a much greater chance of retaining your position on your own merits rather than by trying to pass off these illegal acts as legitimate.</p> <p>Please, do the right thing. That's all we constituents ask of you. It's what you swore to do by taking the oath of your office. Do not exploit us. Be the best of us.</p> <p>REPRESENT US.</p> <p>Thank you</p>
3560		Aug 22 2017 2:01PM	Dr. Victoria Rovine	<p>Dear NC General Assembly--</p> <p>I was shocked to learn that the public is being informed only in the past day or two that there will be 7 public hearings today on the VERY important subject of redistricting, and today happens to be the first day of classes for students, teachers, and faculty across the UNC system. Clearly, there is no time to learn about the issues and no time to plan to travel to these public hearings. This does not seem serious at all. As a citizen and a voter, I feel my voice is being silenced so that the people who ostensibly represent me can go ahead with whatever map they please. And so, our elections will continue to be shaped and determined by factors that have little to do with the will of the voters.</p> <p>This is insulting to those of us who care a lot about the way our democracy functions. I don't want gerrymandered districts to predetermine the outcome of elections, whether they are designed to favor Dems or Reps. It's un-American, plain and simple. I want my representatives to let the voters speak!</p> <p>Thank you. Victoria Rovine</p>
3561		Aug 22 2017 2:04PM	Ms. Irene Liao	<p>Politicians should not draw their own districts. The current process was done behind closed doors, and the new maps are basically the same as before; nothing has changed. We need an independent, nonpartisan commission to draw new district boundaries, not legislators who benefit from illegal racial and partisan gerrymandered districts.</p>
3562		Aug 22 2017 2:10PM	Julie Jensen	<p>We need a bipartisan committee to work on this issue. We need to stop wasting taxpayer money and resources. Both parties are guilty of gerrymandering and it needs to stop.</p>
3563		Aug 22 2017 2:10PM	Joe zinich	<p>Partisan redistricting is killing both parties and this country. I am tired of legislators choosing their voters instead of voters choosing their legislators.</p> <p>Partisan redistricting is about power and money and is a driving force for the divisiveness in this country.</p> <p>The legislation being passed does not reflect the will of all voters. Just the voters the legislators selected.</p> <p>Time to show you care more for your country then your party or</p>
3564		Aug 22 2017 2:16PM	Ms. Anne Johnson	<p>As a resident of North Carolina, the criteria for redistricting must guarantee a process that is fair and open and must prevent racial and partisan gerrymandering. The citizens of this state deserve to have our legislative maps drawn so that everyone is equally and fairly represented. We, the people, must be permitted to choose the representatives we want and not the party with the most power at any given time</p>
3565		Aug 22 2017 2:20PM	Tom Carter	<p>Thank you for taking the time to read this comment.I am disappointed that the nearest meeting to hear the citizens voices (for whom you work for) is such short notice and at an inconvenient time .Perhaps you are already aware of this . With that said I find this whole redistricting comical ; if the courts found the first map illegal and racially targeted , why are we giving it back to the same people that mes it up to begin with ? That is like giving a robber back his gun to try and rob you again . Makes no sense !! The courts should give it to the democrats only to decide ; (there is no punishment to the republicans for racially manipulating or endless delays or games);or at a minimum go back to the lines we had before they were illegally drawn. Lastly , if the lines were illegal , then some in the state house and senate are illegally in office and anything they vote on is illegal. Someone in our legal system , who is not bought , needs to stand up and stop this gamesmanship !!</p>

3566		Aug 22 2017 2:23PM	Ms. Alice Turner	I am disappointed to see the newly drawn maps. Let's have independent, nonpartisan redistricting and break this cycle of gerrymandering. All voters deserve to have a voice and a choice. And those considering running for office need to know that election results aren't a forgone conclusion; else why devote time and resources to a campaign? Gerrymandering stifles exchange of ideas and healthy debate and contributes to the heightened partisan atmosphere that we live in now.
3567		Aug 22 2017 2:23PM	Mrs. Karen Bethune	End gerrymandering. There are fair mathematical models to use. I believe we the voters should pick out legislators not the other way around.
3568		Aug 22 2017 2:23PM	Mrs. Shari Rognstad	It is appalling for NC to be known around the nation as a state that is so politically corrupt, and this redistricting proves the point. Please make redistricting fair for all of the NC residents.
3569		Aug 22 2017 2:24PM	Ms. Lisa Adams	The proposed maps are unconstitutional. They are far beyond the Stephanopoulos and McGhee proposed constitutionality thresholds of bias. Furthermore, at this point the NCGOP has shown such disdain for the law and the constitution that I do not believe they care. I believe they will do whatever will keep them elected through the next election cycle. No politician should fear the votes of the citizens of North Carolina all having equal weight if their policies were for the benefit of ALL of its citizens. This is illegal, immoral, unethical, shameful legislation they are proposing, and as usual, coming from the individuals that spout their twisted fake version of a self-benefiting "Christianity" the loudest. Another sad day for NC. End this
3570		Aug 22 2017 2:32PM	Mr. Kerry Ortega	These districts appear to be as gerrymandered as the current ones. I don't believe the Legislature is capable of drawing fair maps and it should be turned over to a independent committee.
3571		Aug 22 2017 2:34PM	Mary Hirsh	<p>The way the district maps have been for the last few years is insulting, racist, and not made by or for the people.</p> <p>The redistricting process must be open, avoid racial or partisan gerrymandering, and allow voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around.</p> <p>It is clear that the legisltive leaders continue to stall and avoid changing their unconsitutional maps. They even refused to reveal the new map until just before the hearing today August 22, 2017, as well as making it at a time incnvenient to many who work. This is clearly an attempt to undermine the people.</p> <p>The people are angry and we want to feel represented, all of us.</p> <p>Please let the people be invovled with drawing the maps of districts.</p>
3572		Aug 22 2017 2:35PM	Mrs. Carol Cerra	We need to end partisan gerrymandering. Fair maps are needed so that everyone's vote counts. It's time for a change in how we draw our voting maps.
3573		Aug 22 2017 2:37PM	Ms. Alec Gwenn	The constituents of North Carolina should be able to elect their chosen candidate and not the other way around. Preserve our democracy from extremist candidates. The maps need to be drawn nonpartisan and not by a handful of people backed by billionaires.
3574		Aug 22 2017 2:39PM	Mrs. JoAnn Stevens	To our Constituents we advocate for fair, racially just, desegregated Maps. Thanks so much
3575		Aug 22 2017 2:40PM	Ms. Christiane Voisin	I would prefer that a non-partisan process and party be used to redraw the maps. Politically gerrymandered maps aren't much better than racially gerrymandered ones.
3576		Aug 22 2017 2:40PM	Ms. Elizabeth Douglas	I am writing to express my VEHEMENT OPPOSITION to the proposed redrawn district maps. These maps represent more of the same - partisan gerrymandering designed to keep the mapmakers in control of the state! I see no improvement over the previous gerrymandered districts. I want the general assembly to REJECT these maps and instead, have a non-partisan commission create FAIR districts for ALL NORTH CAROLINIANS
3577		Aug 22 2017 2:41PM	Mr. Ray Stevens	To our Constituents we advocate for fair, racially just, desegregated Maps. Thanks so much
3578		Aug 22 2017 2:42PM	Ms. Ms Crutchfield	<p>I am writing to uplift my concern regarding the current structure of the proposed maps.</p> <p>The maps are very important yet the public was provided inadequate time to review and analyze and provided input.</p> <p>There was not sufficient collaboration with parties</p> <p>PLEASE DO NOT continue this our state can not continue going down wrong direction</p>
3579		Aug 22 2017 2:42PM	Mr. Dean Cron	<p>You have to be joking with these "new" maps, correct? I mean paying the same partisan hack that drew the last one to draw these was a joke to start with, but when you start overlaying voter data against these, you can see they're just as gerrymandered as before. I know you think we're all idiots and are willing to be an embarrassment in front of the rest of the country, but we're not. Give me a map that shows voting clusters (no party affiliation, just a heat map of actual voters across the state) and I'll feed it in to a non-partisan machine learning algorithm that will generate truly non-partisan maps. But then you might lose your jobs, so no way you'd want that, right?</p> <p>How about you clowns actually do this in a non-rigged way. A way that doesn't visibly benefit either side? Or are you so scared that your party's platform sucks that you don't want to chance losing your careers?</p>

3580		Aug 22 2017 2:47PM	Chad Jones	This process has been and continues to be too partisan and secretive. Voters don't know how these maps were made because they were constructed behind closed doors. The public has the right to understand the process by which the maps were drawn. The public must be able to ensure that the maps were not drawn to favor a particular party. Why has the Joint House & Senate Redistricting Committee rejected nonpartisan standards in creating these maps? It appears entirely to give the majority party maximum advantage, sheltering politicians from necessary public scrutiny, and depriving voters of real choice at the ballot box. I hope that the members of this committee reconsider, and bring House Bill 200 to a vote. It's time to move forward with a nonpartisan redistricting process.
3581		Aug 22 2017 2:47PM	Mrs. Charlotte Moore	Who do you think you are? You were elected to represent the people of this state fairly and equally! This proposal is just more of the same gerrymandering to prevent NC citizens from being fairly and equitably represented! This needs not to happen!
3582		Aug 22 2017 2:50PM	Mrs. Sarah Morgan	I live in Durham County but was born and raised in Onslow County, where my parents still live and actively vote. The GOP's blatant gerrymandering efforts are an absolute embarrassment-- you make us look like Jim Crow Era Mississippi with your efforts to suppress black voters. Young people vote with their money-- and corporations are paying attention-- you are going to drive jobs and high income earners out of the state with your blatant, partisan power grab. Voters are paying very close attention to your behavior, so get with the program or get voted out of office.
3583		Aug 22 2017 2:50PM	Mr. Cordell Garrett	Once again it looks like republicans are trying to make it so that they can come out on top. Were any liberal leaning organizations consulting on what a fair map would be for 2018? I may not can go there and protest my objection to this but I can let you know you need to go back to the drawing board and make sure that things are equal and fair and based on what I'm seeing I'm not impressed with the new maps.
3584		Aug 22 2017 2:51PM	Ms. Jean Mosher	Please rid our state of gerrymandering. I want independent, fair redistricting. I support HB200 & I vote!
3585		Aug 22 2017 2:51PM	Jennifer Keith	In order to be fair, new maps must be compact, contiguous, and must comply with the Voting Rights Act to give minority voters an opportunity to elect their candidates of choice.
3586		Aug 22 2017 2:52PM	Raven Chitalo	Racial gerrymandering promotes racial divisions to give white elites political power. This is disgusting and our state deserves better. (1) In 2011, N.C. Republicans purposefully packed black voters into a small number of districts to undermine the new fusion coalition that elected Barack Obama. (2) GOP lawmakers combined racial gerrymandering with an anti-voter "Monster Law" that targeted African Americans, as the court said, "with almost surgical precision." (3) Racial gerrymandering is a tool of white supremacy. It produces rigged elections that hurt all North Carolinians except the wealthy, white, mostly male power brokers.
3587		Aug 22 2017 2:55PM	Karen Macklin	I am disappointed with the new proposed maps. It is not enough to have new maps. Maps need to be designed via a non-partisan procedure. The new maps perpetuate the cycle of gerrymandering. The new proposed districts appear designed to once again give the majority party maximum advantage, shielding politicians from accountability from the public. The current redistricting process continues to be overly partisan and lacks transparency.
3588		Aug 22 2017 2:58PM	Ms. Susan Stinson	I am writing with deep concern about both the process and content of the latest proposed maps for redistricting. I have long been a supporter of a NON-PARTISAN process for drawing districts, since both parties have shown they are incapable of putting public interest before partisan politics. The new proposed maps have not been submitted in time for the public to consider carefully before the hearings today. I decided not to bother to attend in person when I found out there were only 30 seats in the room where the Greensboro hearing is being held. It appears that the proposed districts continue to favor extreme partisan gerrymandering, creating safe seats with little or no partisan competition. Without such competition, too many races are decided at the primary level, excluding unaffiliated voters like myself as well as those from the minority party in a district. This pushes those who are elected to listen to only the most extreme voices in their parties, leading to the divisiveness we are experiencing today. The bi-partisan group of former judges that Tom Ross brought together to redraw boundaries did a much better job. As Republican Rhoda Billings said in a public presentation in Greensboro, it's really not hard to draw fair districts unless you are trying to gerrymander. The current maps are not good enough for North Carolina. I find the Senate districts especially problematic, dividing Guilford County into three different districts.
3589		Aug 22 2017 2:58PM	Ms. Linda King	The voter should choose their representative not vice versa. GOP have taken our democratic system and made a joke of it. It's becoming a corrupt institution where if you got the money, you can buy any elected position you want in government.
3590		Aug 22 2017 2:58PM	Ms. Jennifer Enright	End partisan gerrymandering. Hire a nonpartisan organization to redraw district lines so every North Carolinian's vote counts.
3591		Aug 22 2017 2:59PM	Ms. Joanne Kalp	The new maps are a farce. Not surprising, since they come from the same highly partisan source. We need an objective source, such as an outside Commission. like that used in California.

3592		Aug 22 2017 3:08PM	Diane Behar	The "new" redistricting plan recently submitted is an insult to any voter seeking a legitimate system within which to elect our representatives. The state house and senate should allow an independent group to redraw the lines to comply with the court order. This "first draft" is more of the same cynical politics that our essentially illegitimate state legislature has foisted on voters for far too long.
3593		Aug 22 2017 3:10PM	Dr. Margot Wuebbens	It appears that the newly drawn districts are no different than the current set. There isn't really any difference between racial gerrymandering or political party gerrymandering. Both are dishonest and do not serve the interests of all NC citizens equally! The only way that we can start healing the deep political divisions at both the state and national level are if we have more moderates elected for both parties so that there is some possibility of compromise legislation being passed. Please put the interests of all NC citizens over the interests of the Republican Party and redraw new districts in a more equitable, non-partisan manner!
3594		Aug 22 2017 3:12PM	S. Marisol Asselta	After so much money has been wasted by this legislature to defend illegal maps, and with the overwhelming majority of voters in disagreement with their continued attempts at racial and political gerrymandering, the Republican General Assembly has become an embarrassment to the nation and, specifically, their constituents. This is your opportunity to change that and show you're capable of fulfilling your duties as honorable representatives of the people of North Carolina. Don't throw away your shot.
3595		Aug 22 2017 3:12PM	Tondra Bowers	Until a non-partisan committee draws the districts, democracy will not live in North Carolina!!
3596		Aug 22 2017 3:17PM	Mr. William S. Clark	On behalf of the entire Board of Columbus County Commissioners, I would like to express our strong opposition to the State plan to split our present district which would effectively divide Columbus County into two districts.
3597		Aug 22 2017 3:19PM	Ms. Anita Brown	As a registered voter in Cabarrus county I wish to commend the committee for drawing the new House and Senate districts in a colorblind way, with no use of racial data. The maps appear to be fair and legal as well as meeting the letter of the applicable laws as we know them today. In addition they comply with relevant court precedents. I respectfully request the courts refrain from further changes in redistricting laws and standards after the lines have been drawn and approved by those legislative bodies which have the legal authority to determine them. These maps strictly follow the Whole County provisions allowed by law and respect our communities and shared interests of our neighbors. These districts comply with "one man one vote" and contain populations as equal as possible based on the 2010 census. For these reasons and more not iterated here these maps are fair and legal and should be approved by the legislature.
3598		Aug 22 2017 3:19PM	Ms. Vanessa Barnett-Loro	I'm so tired of you guys drawing new gerrymandered districts over and over again and changing the individuals who are supposed to represent me and my family. We need an official non-partisan group to do this work, so that we can stop with the constant changes and court challenges. Put your state over your party and do the right thing, here.
3599		Aug 22 2017 3:22PM	Ms. Carol Caffey	Stop the Gerrymandering!!! Allow "We The people" to have a voice in our representation. Make a legal non -partisan map. Not a dem leading one nor a rep. Leading one. A true map of representation for ALL PFOPI F!
3600		Aug 22 2017 3:26PM	Mr. Trevor Wentt	<p>Hello, my name is Trevor Wentt.</p> <p>As a young black man in America, I am in no way new to the effects of racism and white supremacy.</p> <p>Let’s be clear, racial gerrymandering is white supremacy, empowering white candidates and limiting the voices of black people like myself and the Supreme Court has clearly ruled that previous voting districts represented that.</p> <p>In creating new maps, it is insulting that leaders would hire the exact same consultant, in Thomas Hofeller, who drew the current illegal maps. Logical conclusion would lead me to believe that if someone made maps in the past that promoted racial divisions, they will continue in the same regard.</p> <p>White supremacy is not limited to the rallies that we saw in Charlottesville just two weeks ago—it finds deep roots in systemic oppression of people of color in the United States, and this act of racial gerrymandering is doing the same thing.</p> <p>The current redistricting seems to be going through another process of deceit as leaders have claimed to not consider the race of voters—even though the action in question involves determining if black voters have been given a fair chance to elect candidates of our choice in the new districts. And the short time between these hearings and when these new maps have been revealed are also of deep concern to me. Doing things like this help form the monster law that nearly led to the disenfranchising of black votes all across the state “with almost surgical precision.”</p>

3601		Aug 22 2017 3:28PM	Chris Fedor	<p>A GIS analysis of past election data allows the public to simulate past election results over various districting schemes and to determine how fair the legislative representation of those districts would be. From one such analysis, I have data to indicate that the proposed 2017 districts result in elections that are even more unfair than they are now.</p> <p>For example, Pat McCrory and Roy Cooper came very close to tying in the state popular vote in 2016. But if that same popular vote had been binned and segmented by the proposed 2017 districts for the North Carolina House, Republican candidates would have won > 61% of the districts (74/120). This makes the 2017 proposed house district even more unfair than the districts used in 2016 where, in this particular voting simulation, Republicans would have won 72/120 districts - despite achieving ~50% of the popular vote. The 2010 legislative district boundaries would have resulted in a Republican win of 70/120 districts.</p> <p>We are on a path now where the representation in the North Carolina General Assembly is consistently veering farther away from the will of the general public. That public shouldn't have to settle for qualitative measurements and judgements of gerrymandering in any attempt to fix it.</p> <p>Evaluation like the one above can be done quickly for a variety of proposed districting schemes and using a large number of past election dates and election types to simulate overall voter sentiment. I hope the state will conduct/publicize a numeric analysis of this nature before a vote.</p>
3602		Aug 22 2017 3:33PM	Dr. Peter Anderson	<p>These "new" districts are essentially the same as before, so those who present these as "new" are wasting more time and tax dollars, insulting NC citizens. These "new" districts will be found to be unconstitutional. The maps should be drawn utilizing nonpartisan, voter registration data, not political, partisan results from previous elections. The districts should follow all state and federal law, Voting Rights Act and state constitutional mandates. Avoid splitting counties and follow boundaries of state political subdivisions. Ignore results of past elections and residence of incumbents or challengers. If you check Tom Hofeller's references, you will find that his previous work (in NC!) was found to be unconstitutional, most recently by a unanimous US Supreme Court. NC citizens deserve fairness, rather than political games, as the basis for the creation of congressional and legislative districts.</p>
3603		Aug 22 2017 3:36PM	Mrs. Jesse Kaufmann	<p>I disapprove of the manner in which this redistricting procedure has taken place.</p> <p>Dragged your feet for many months forcing us into illegal districts, and then when you finally go ahead and hire the "expert" that made the districts illegal, you do not allow input from elected democrats and give the public no time to hear discussion on tv, the press, or with their officials how this will impact them. And if it gets rejected on 9/1 by the judges you get to drag your feet until no one can possibly familiarize themselves with new candidates. THIS IS NOT A DEMOCRACY. Sign me Disgusted.</p>
3604		Aug 22 2017 3:37PM	Mr. George DeCherney	<p>Is it true that the same person that drew the illegal 2011 maps has drawn the new maps?</p> <p>If so, what assurances have been given to the people that this set will be legal and just?</p>
3605		Aug 22 2017 3:40PM	Mr. Ethan Chrisawn	<p>I'm a white NC native from a rural area, and I just want to say that the racial gerrymandering in our state has been beyond shameful.</p> <p>I'm really hoping that the General Assembly can do the right thing. We should be using the most democratic maps possible, and not ones that intentionally favor one political party. I will vote against any representative who stands in the way of fair redistricting.</p>
3606		Aug 22 2017 3:40PM	Dr. April Fernandes	<p>I oppose the current redistricting process, and its attendant disenfranchisement across racial and partisan lines. The redistricting process must be open to avoid racial and/or partisan gerrymandering, and ensure free, fair and representative elections. Thank you.</p>
3607		Aug 22 2017 3:40PM	Ms. Jean Hamilton	<p>The NCGA has a chance to make history and be remembered as the legislature that started this state back on the road of American values - fairness, competitiveness, citizen participation in democracy. This history will be made by championing nonpartisan standards for drawing legislative voting districts and rejecting the proposed maps.</p>
3608		Aug 22 2017 3:43PM	Julia Haslett	<p>I'm writing to voice my objection to the rushed and hence non-transparent nature of the latest redistricting decisions. One day of review, on a weekday no less, is not a meaningful process responsive to the public whom you serve. As a voter in this state, I demand you open this up for greater review and deliberation. Too often legislators forget who they're ultimately accountable to. Julia Haslett</p>
3609		Aug 22 2017 3:43PM	Marly Roberson	<p>I am very disappointed in the transparency and effectiveness of this redistricting process. Despite court rulings, republican members have continued with a very partisan intent that is clear in the little and last minute information they have shared. I want a fair and representative legislature in NC, as most NC citizens do. District maps should be non-partisan. Please do your jobs and complete this process fairly and in accordance with court rulings. If you do not, it will have a big impact on the next election cycle.</p>

3610		Aug 22 2017 3:44PM	Mr. Timothy Pittman	To that extent that a truly independent commission can be established, such would be an inherently more representative method of preserving equal access and communities of interest while avoiding gerrymandering or even the accusation of gerrymandering.
3611		Aug 22 2017 3:45PM	Ms. Elizabeth Paley	Is it really so hard to find an approach that at least _appears_ fair and unbiased? Hiring the same consultant to design the new maps as designed the previous ones was a dubious way to start. That the proposed maps now appear designed to flip seats to Republican advantage comes as no surprise. If the only way you can get elected is by stacking the deck in your favor, the NCGA remains illegitimately elected. NC deserves better. Take politics out of the redistricting process--or let the courts take care of redistricting for you.
3612		Aug 22 2017 3:45PM	Ms. Kim Rimmer	I forgot to add this earlier; I want an INDEPENDENT, NONPARTISAN redistricting commission to redraw maps. I think that would be the optimal solution for both Rs and Ds; I've seen arguments on both the right and left that both sides gerrymander, given the opportunity. This should help solve that problem. Wouldn't it be nice to do this and then actually have more time (and \$\$\$) to focus on the ISSUES?
3613		Aug 22 2017 3:46PM	Ms. Kimberly Hanson	I am absolutely appalled that we have gerrymandering in my state. As a citizen of North Carolina, I demand a government of, by, and for the people. Regarding redistricting, I have a few points I want to assure are understood, and I share these with the greatest respect. 1) The redistricting process must be open and fair, and should absolutely not be done by those already in power, as that leads to potential abuse of power. 2) The process must not allow racial or partisan gerrymandering, and must allow voters to choose their political representatives. SERIOUSLY. 3) Legislative leaders continue to stall on this process, and it is insulting to the voters of North Carolina. 4) The mapping must follow the courts directive to examine whether black voters have a fair chance to elect candidates of their choice. 5) NC Lawmakers must stop with their unlawful gerrymandering that has been used to win elections, and be true to the people of North Carolina, allowing the governing to pass to lawfully elected officials where and when decided by the people. 6) I absolutely demand that the General Assembly stop spending taxpayer money to defend the current illegal maps in court. 7) I am dismayed by the horrid combination of racial gerrymandering with the anti-voter "Monster Law" that targeted African Americans, as the court said, "with almost surgical precision." This unfair targeting based on skin color must stop.
3614		Aug 22 2017 3:47PM	Betty Berghaus	Please be fair, not partial to one party above another, or onerace abov3 another, in zoning for voting. All Americans are entitled to a vote. Winning by rearranging the districts to favor one party over another is not just or right. It is not why any of you were elected. You were elected bytgr people and for the people, all the people. So do the right thing, not the Republican or Democratic thing. Please be Just! No gerrymandering.
3615		Aug 22 2017 3:48PM	Ms. Siobhan D'Antonio	Hi, I would like fair and balanced redistricting. I think the people of North Carolina deserve districts that give each candidate a fair chance at winning an election. I hope the next topic for the NC General Assembly is the monument law and the danger they pose to public safetv.
3616		Aug 22 2017 3:48PM	Mrs. Diana Kinney	Why is the same man (Republican) who gerrymandered the LAST time responsible for drawing the lines again??? Keep in mind the reason that we were told to go back to the drawing board in the first place. It's time to stop the old politics as usual schemes and do something different like SERVE YOUR CONSTITUENTS and represent our best interests and not yours or corporate interests. We are sick of this mess!
3617		Aug 22 2017 3:49PM	Randy Waite	It's unfortunate the redistricting committee could not put the best interests of the state above politics and the need to win, instead of trying to find ways to actually represent the people of this state. The Legislature and Congressional representatives should represent the make-up of the state, not lopsided representation. Members of the committee should take a hard look at why they are serving the state. They should be serving all the people, not just one political party. They should be ashamed of themselves.
3618		Aug 22 2017 3:53PM	Ms. Bonnie Wright	Undemocratic process to release proposed maps with so little time for public input. Maps remain unfair regarding racial and partisan gerrymandering. Elected legislators must comply with letter and spirit of court ruling. Adopt an independent redistricting commission.

3619		Aug 22 2017 3:55PM	Ms. Katherine Winslow	I have just retired after a long career as the Director of the Library at a small NC college. I have lived in NC since 1979, but my husband grew up in Tarboro, and his family has roots in NC going back to the 1700s. NC has been a wonderful place to raise our family, and I think it offers the promise of a strong future. I say these things as a resident who has voted for over 45 years. That history is important, because I can see in my own lifetime how elections have become more partisan, and how voters have begun to lose faith in the election process that is the foundation for our country and our freedoms. It is important for American citizens to believe that their votes matter and that they are represented both in Washington and in Raleigh by elected legislators who will represent their interests. Today,whether the voting districts are drawn by Democrats or Republicans, we can all see how gerrymandering has worked primarily to serve sitting legislators. The majority party is in control, and has little need to listen to their constituents. As a result, voters are discouraged and do not have faith that those elected to serve them will represent their interests. We must eliminate the gerrymandering that has developed such uneven districts, or voters will continue to feel that our political system is not working for us or for anyone. I strongly urge you to establish a nonpartisan system for redistricting in NC. It is critical for the future of our state and country, for my children and grand children and for yours.
3620		Aug 22 2017 3:57PM	Mr. Jordan Branham	I support districts that promote both fair representation and logical demarcations. District lines should: 1.) Promote a proportional relationship between citizen interests and legislative representation. 2.) Facilitate a representatives ability to easily travel through and meet constituents in central locations (favoring district shapes that minimize the maximum end to end distance of a district). Following such principles is vital to our states social, economic, and political future.
3621		Aug 22 2017 3:57PM	Mr. Randall Pinion	While the points conveyed by this document (https://democracync.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/RedistrictingCoreMessagesFINAL.pdf) are by and large exactly what I wish to say, I would particularly like to emphasize that using the redistricting process to establish a partisan advantage that does not accurately reflect the wishes and thoughts of our state's citizens is a grave failing of your duty as statesmen. Allowing partisan bias to affect our elections--the very core of our national character and system of governance--is nigh unforgivable, and to begin the process of doing so again after being ordered by the court to undo previous wrongs is almost unimaginably selfish and wrong. Please, seek a neutral third party to establish clear, simple districts that will reflect the will of the North Carolinian people and not simply the whims of whichever party is in power.
3622		Aug 22 2017 4:00PM	Dr. Joseph Tanzini	Why are the maps drawn by mostly Republicans using partisan data. This process needs to be nonpartisan! This is making our votes ineffective and it weakens our democracy. Let's return NC back to the voters.
3623		Aug 22 2017 4:06PM	Naomi Spencer	One of the problems of the previous gerrymandering in NC is that there are over 2.7 million registered democrats in North Carolina compared to nearly 2.1 million registered Republicans in North Carolina. In addition nearly 1.9 million of those registered democrats voted in 2016 compared to nearly 1.6 million Republicans. And yet we still ended up with a Republican supermajority. And even though Republicans got only 53% of the vote they ended up with 77% of the state's seats. The new proposed redistricting is not addressing this unequal representation because the districts are being redrawn by the Republicans to benefit the Republicans. We need a non partisan redistricting commission to fairly tackle redistricting in NC.
3624		Aug 22 2017 4:12PM	Ms. Alice Snell	We want fairly drawn maps in North Carolina. STOP GERRYMANDERING and do what's right for just representation! The citizens of North Carolina are watching your actions and expect you to do this fairlv.

3625		Aug 22 2017 4:13PM	Ms. Renee Sekel	<p>I am writing to urge the Republican leadership to abandon its continuing efforts to gerrymander itself a majority, and to instead draw districts without regard to voting history, the presence of an incumbent, or any other factor designed to create districts "safe" for one party or the other. Our system of government works best when we all have a say in how it is run, and efforts to gerrymander districts to distort the will of the people are wrong, no matter which party is doing it.</p> <p>I would also note that, when the GOP plays games with legislative districts, the message that it sends to the people of NC is twofold: (1) that the party is not confident enough in its ideas that it believes it can win without external help, and/or (b) that the GOP (and its leadership) simply doesn't care what the people of NC want if it means it/they may lose power.</p> <p>It is long past time for NC to undertake non-partisan redistricting. Anyone seeking to serve the people of NC in the NCGA should be confident enough in their morals and their policy beliefs to be willing to fight for them on fair ground. I think you all know, however deep down, that NC is, or should be, better than this. Please, stop denying our citizens their voices. Reject the newly proposed maps, and draw them again. without partisan advantage in mind.</p>
3626		Aug 22 2017 4:13PM	Mrs. Jana Dux	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I am asking that the NCGA please understand that I support a NONPARTISAN redistricting committee. I do not support in new districts or slight change that still favors either political party. We want FAIR maps for everyone. Please consider what other states have done in the past if this process is too much of a struggle.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
3627		Aug 22 2017 4:13PM	Andrew Ross	<p>I cannot attend the public hearing, which I'm very upset about. Luckily, I have friends who can who will make their voices heard loud and clear. We are DONE with the GOP nonsense when it comes to redistricting. The new maps put forward are no better than the previous and I do not support them. It is long past due that we have an independent panel, master, or whatever you want to call it to draw these maps. The North Carolina Republicans have created an undemocratic state and this new effort does nothing to convince me they care any more today about creating a democratic government than they did when they originally drew the current unconstitutional</p>
3628		Aug 22 2017 4:18PM	Mrs. Rebecca Hayes	<p>As a native and life-long resident of North Carolina, I believe that it is the responsibility of the NC legislature to make sure the vote of each voter in this State carries the same weight, that each voter in this State has equal and fair access to casting those votes, and that every voter raised in this State has equal access to a quality education. If you don't believe that, too, you shouldn't be serving the citizens of NC. It's clearly time to bring in an impartial third party to draw the district lines; partisan bickering has held us back long enough.</p>
3629		Aug 22 2017 4:20PM	Mr. Kenneth Hunter	<p>Thank you the Redistricting Committees for their preparation of compact districts that do a better job to respect County jurisdictional boundaries and avoid "amoeba"-looking districts than prior redistrictings. My only suggestion for the future is to look at how to better balance respecting municipal and county jurisdiction boundaries, especially where municipalities cross multiple counties.</p> <p>Also, the decision to reduce the number of districts containing portions of the City of Rocky Mount from 3 (in both the House and Senate) to 2 (in both the House and Senate) does have the effect of reducing the influence of the City and its residents to speak out on matters of legislation and policy. I do not believe this was an intent of the redistricting, but even as a side effect, it does have a noticeable impact.</p> <p>Thank you for your continued work in this process.</p>
3630		Aug 22 2017 4:22PM	Ms. Luci avery	<p>The maps were not done in a transparent manner because they were drawn behind closed doors. Districts are not contiguous and the majority party still has maximum advantages. Draw the maps openly and fairly.</p>
3631		Aug 22 2017 4:22PM	Mr. Steve Segedy	<p>Politicians have no business defining the voting districts in our state. Voting districts should be carefully evaluated and established by independent working groups without racial or party bias. The current state of gerrymandered districts in North Carolina is shameful, and makes us look backwards and racist to the rest of the world.</p> <p>Fix the district maps. Do it in transparently, open to review by voters, so we'll know who is responsible next time we go to the polls.</p>

3632		Aug 22 2017 4:28PM	Elma Hairston	The coordination of the redistricting meeting at GTCC is just an example of the true lack of concern that is being shown. In this matter anticipation of space requirement apparently is not an issue. In my estimation "going thru the motion" is the only definition how can we have confidence In This process when there is not equal representation from individuals across the spectrum to representing diversity overall. GTCC has facilities an auditorium to accommodate the numbers they chooses to split the audience in different rooms just as they have split the state slanted toward one party over another. No confidence in this process.
3633		Aug 22 2017 4:29PM	Ms. Terri Lytle-Holcomb	This has to be fair for ALL parties and cannot be weighed in favor of any one party. It is unconstitutional to favor one party over another. What the current committee has done is shameful.
3634		Aug 22 2017 4:34PM	Mrs. Andtea George	Thank you for creating maps that are color blind, drawn without racial data. Drawing maps in any other way is 'rigging' maps and elections. Thanks for keeping the districts contiguous.
3635		Aug 22 2017 4:35PM	Sarah Wagner	Rep. Lewis, I applaud your candor in regards to bias in the process of redistricting. Every time I have heard you speak to the topic of gerrymandering in North Carolina, you have consistently denied any racial animus in the intentions of the committee, but you have also never failed to clarify that whoever draws the maps will be biased towards benefitting their own party. Generally, this is presented as an immutable reality of politics - the party in power will draw the lines to benefit themselves, and that because of this immutable reality, voters will, or at least should, pay extra attention to ensure the majority represents them in redistricting years. This kind of belief undercuts the basic trust that North Carolinians put in our elected legislators to represent our best interests. The question of the legitimacy of partisan advantage when drawing district lines lies on a fundamentally flawed assumption that the party who controls the majority of our legislature at one point in time represents the prevailing value alignment of North Carolina Voters. The simple reality that our legislators do not even try to hide their attempts to benefit their own party, at the cost of the integrity of OUR votes and the legitimacy of OUR democracy, betrays their true loyalties - not to their constituents, or even their voters, but to their party above even their principles. It also highlights a frightening lack of foresight on the part of our majority legislators, for believing that their own party was somehow not vulnerable to the dangerous extremism and demagoguery that is always lurking at the fringes of our republic. The reality of voter alignment in North Carolina paints a much different picture of what values we hold and who we feel represents us. By voter registration alone, the largest group of voters in North Carolina are those that identify as neither Republican or Democrat. Unaffiliated voters alone outnumber those who affiliate themselves with the
3636		Aug 22 2017 4:35PM	Ms. Taylor Daly	It's plain to see that these new maps are just as unfair as the ones before them. Districts should be decided by either a BIPARTISAN committee or an independent group outside of the legislature. I'm ashamed and embarrassed of our once-great state yet again.
3637		Aug 22 2017 4:38PM	Dr. Molly Gregas	The practice of gerrymandering has become an outrageously misused political tool and is in effect diluting the role of the voters in what should be a democratic government. Other countries have applied a variety of fair and nonpartisan methods to draw fair and representative electoral districts; North Carolina (and other U.S. states) need to adopt a method that is fair to ALL NC citizens. I am disappointed that the courts have had to intervene and that the redistricting process ordered by the courts seems so similar to the previous attempts. We the citizens deserve fair representation in fairly drawn electoral districts. This issue will be on my mind for the upcoming elections in 2018 and 2020.
3638		Aug 22 2017 4:38PM	Dr. Matthew McNally	I'm troubled by several aspects of this redistricting proposal. First, the use of the same (partisan) consultant who was used to draw the unconstitutional maps. Next, the "lack" of consideration of race is troubling because it pretends race is not highly correlated with certain geographic areas or political affiliations. I do not support this redo as it continues to be done in a partisan way that continues to have the effect of racial discrimination, though possibly a bit less obviously. Do it over. Get a new nonpartisan commission to draw the maps. This is not about maintaining seats or majorities. This is about having a fair and functioning democracy.
3639		Aug 22 2017 4:39PM	Mrs. Traci Townsan	Every citizen of NC should be represented fairly. We demand fair maps now!
3640		Aug 22 2017 4:42PM	Mrs. Sarah Abrahams	As a resident of North Carolina, I implore you to stop gerrymandering in North Carolina. The plans for new redistricting continue in an attempt to block the ability of North Carolinians to have their voter voice fairly heard in elections. The new plans utilize the same partisan, biased strategy to allow a pick and choose approach to their districts. I ask that you employ a non-partisan group for any redistricting and not to utilize the voting record history for districts in reconfigurations (which implicitly carries with it racial makeup).

3641		Aug 22 2017 4:43PM	Hailey Wise	<p>Good afternoon,</p> <p>My name is Hailey Wise, and I am a registered voter in Carrboro, North Carolina.</p> <p>I am so discouraged to see how the NCGA is conducting their redistricting campaign. For the new maps to be released so last minute, drawn by the same consultant who created the original unconstitutional maps, is an insult to both the legislative process and the people of North Carolina.</p> <p>Your constituents demand a seat at the table. We demand this process be performed with 100% transparency. We demand fair districts. We demand representatives who listen and look out for the best interests of their constituents, not themselves. We cannot tolerate how this process has been performed thus far.</p> <p>We demand that redistricting process be open, avoid racial and partisan gerrymandering, and allow voters to pick their representatives - not the other way around.</p>
3642		Aug 22 2017 4:46PM	Dr. Heather Brown-Harding	I understand that redistricting is a difficult process. Even with automated software, we don't have things quite perfect. That being said, there is some glaring issues with the proposed redistricting-particularly around urban centers. What about taking Forsyth county and carving out the urban area and then needed to add Davie makes sense? Similarly, the long narrow 41st district in Mecklenburg makes no sense. Can't we just use to common sense on these things? Stop picking your voters and let us pick you.
3643		Aug 22 2017 4:53PM	Mr. Michael Austin	This is the THIRD time you are redrawing the lines and ASSIGNING my Representative! I didn't vote for my Representative. YOU told me who he was because YOU decided YOU didn't like the way the lines were drawn. I'm tired of YOU picking my Representative for me! Especially when my neighborhood had a Republican Representative for YEARS and now YOU have decided to APPOINT a DEMOCRAT! Where do you get off changing our vote from one party to another? I feel we have been CHEATED of our vote and handed a different party because that party won the Governorship, even if by a hair. If you are going to change parties on us, then we should have a special vote so the PEOPLE can put the person they want in place, not YOUR APPOINTEE!
3644		Aug 22 2017 4:55PM	Mrs. Kimberly Ratliff	I am appalled that the same GOP consultant who drew racist & unconstitutional maps was engaged again to draw these new maps. This process should be non partisan and independent. Legislators should not draw their own maps, essentially choosing their own voters. This undermines democracy.
3645		Aug 22 2017 4:56PM	Ms. Katy Molony	From what I can see of the new maps, they do not reflect the will of the people and continue to isolate voters. The maps must be independently drawn. Every citizen deserves a voice and fair representation. You are not providing that opportunity. Independent re districting now!
3646		Aug 22 2017 4:57PM	Ms. Rebecca Fox	North Carolinians want and deserve fair, independently apportioned districts!
3647		Aug 22 2017 4:57PM	Dr. Helene Hilger	I am very disappointed with the draft redistricting plan. It seems like the legislature is doing the minimum necessary when there are so many straightforward methods to come up with a fair plan. Do the right thing and give our citizens their voice back. I support contiguous regions, a neutral team to create the plan, and use of methods proven in other states to be fair and equitable.
3648		Aug 22 2017 4:57PM	Mr. Russ Stephenson	<p>Good afternoon my name is Russ Stephenson. I have been a Raleigh City Councilor for the past 12 years. When Council districts are updated, our staff selects the boundaries based on compactness and equal geographic distribution.</p> <p>It is a non-partisan redistricting process that – as you might expect - leads to non-partisan decision making. What that means, is that our Council decisions serve all the citizens of Raleigh equally, rather than favoring one partisan base or the other.</p> <p>In conclusion, I recommend you adopt a non-partisan redistricting process in order to better serve all the citizens of North Carolina.</p> <p>Russ Stephenson Raleigh City Councilor</p>
3649		Aug 22 2017 4:59PM	jon santoro	Find fair rules for this. Stop playing games.
3650		Aug 22 2017 5:01PM	Dr. P. Scott Lawrence	<p>This is not a fair way to obtain public comments. Having all the meetings at the same time makes no sense. There is no statement of the philosophy or decision system that was suggested immediately prior to the public commnts.</p> <p>As a disabled sensor citizen in a rural part of NC, there is no way I can get to one of the telecom locations. The system is not set up for a fair input from our states citizens. It looks to me like the high dollar opinion makers are setting the districts up so they can stay in control. It is no wonder we have a lot of discontent in our state and country.</p>

3651		Aug 22 2017 5:02PM	Mrs. Suzanne Gould	This is an outrage! A fair and unbiased person should draw these maps, not the person who gerrymandered them in the first place. Bipartisan is the way we want it in this state and in this country. You are destroying what centuries of Americans have fought and died for by your actions! Renent! NC deserves better leadershin!
3652		Aug 22 2017 5:02PM	Dylan Pendergrast	There is no integrity to the districts, if the party in power draws them; Democrat, or Republican. I've seen the new maps, they are as crooked as the old. It is a travesty to use the people of NC as pawns, in a power play. The consolidation of power, grossly misrepresents the people of NC. This is the job of elected officials. It is their civic duty to represent the people, accurately. The current legislative body does nothing of the sort. Rather, it is a misrepresentation, who is abusive of their consolidated power. From here on out, all maps should be drawn by a non-partisan body. No more gerrymandering. If the NCGA are civic minded, and representative of the people, they will comply.
3653		Aug 22 2017 5:02PM	Mr. Charles Hunt	Hello... This entire process of gerrymandering of voting districts initially, which provided safe districts while also disenfranchising NC taxpayers, then hastily throwing together public hearings in venues too small to accommodate the public voice, is not only unseemly but unAmerican. Please ensure that districts are not only fairly drawn but offer a chance for true democracy and voice of the people. Do what it right to ensure that every NC citizen has a voice, and please ensure auto registration
3654		Aug 22 2017 5:03PM	Mrs. Jacky Mallory	<p>stages. 18. This</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <p>I believe in the following for redistricting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be compact • respect communities of interest • be contiguous • comply with the Voting Rights Act to ensure that it's possible for black voters to elect their candidates of choice • be free from partisan politics (ignore voter registration data, past election results, incumbent addresses, etc.) and ensure maps are not drawn to unduly favor a particular party, candidate or lawmaker <p>The current redistricting process continues to be overly partisan and lacks transparency. Maps were drawn behind closed doors and voters were not given sufficient time to review proposed maps before the scheduled public hearings.</p> <p>A majority of the Joint House & Senate Redistricting Committee is on the record as supporting nonpartisan redistricting in the past. And yet, the committee rejected nonpartisan redistricting standards now. Instead, these new maps once again perpetuate the cycle of gerrymandering. The proposed districts appear designed to give the majority party maximum advantage, shielding politicians from accountability to the public, while depriving voters of a choice and a voice at the ballot box.</p>
3655		Aug 22 2017 5:05PM	Mr. Jerry Gershenhorn	Please reject this most recent attempt by the Republican-controlled legislature to gerrymander districts so that they perpetuate their power. This redistricting plan subverts our democracy and should be rejected by all democracy-loving people. It subverts the principle of one person/one vote. We need a nonpartisan redistricting of legislative districts. Thank you.
3656		Aug 22 2017 5:15PM	Sam Robinson	Hi, I just wanted to express my extreme diss appointment in the "new" NC maps. These maps are more of the same. It's sad that we live in a day and time where you have to cheat in order to have a chance. If Dems win 10% of popular vote, republicans would still win & still have a majority. It is shameful that you are not doing the will of the people. North Carolina is the new Jim Crow!!! Let's have open & fair elections for all people not just the few that want to retain power.
3657		Aug 22 2017 5:21PM	Betty Gunz	Vote-rigging is illegal and undemocratic and unpatriotic. Draw fair maps with compact districts that keep communities together, exclude political data from consideration, and don't tilt the map in favor of either party. Thank you.
3658		Aug 22 2017 5:24PM	Mr. Ed Sheary	I'm truly sorry to see that the new maps do little to correct the racial inequities in the current districts and do nothing to correct the political gerrymandering that has effectively rendered one man one vote moot in our state. I presume the majority intent is to let the courts fix one or both concerns. I do wish the majority would adopt a non partisan approach to drawing districts. The level of data available since the 2011 districts were drawn simply makes too easy the opportunity for legislators to select their voters. This isn't democracy, not even close.
3659		Aug 22 2017 5:25PM	Mrs. Rhonda Bullard-Dutton	I would like to express my concern on the redistricting that is being proposed and voice my vote to keep Brenden Jones and Danny Britt Jr. for all of Columbus County. These two have done so much for our county already and I am in total support of them to remain our representatives. We voted for them to represent us and the redistricting should not affect our right to keep who those we selected to represent us. Thanks so much for your willingness to listen to the people! God bless you in your positions and God bless America!!!!

3660		Aug 22 2017 5:26PM	Mrs. Claire Secrist	We needed independent redistricting. That's not what we got. And now it's clear that the NCGOP doesn't care the tiniest bit that they look like power-hungry, corrupt goons. This new map is yet another abomination to democracy, and to the people of North Carolina. It should be rejected, the NCGOP should quit stalling, quit spending money defending this, and quit embarrassing our state - and get someone professional and independent to do this map.
3661		Aug 22 2017 5:27PM	Dr. Lauren Livingston	Under the proposed maps, only 10 senate districts and 19 house districts will be competitive. This will worsen the situation where the majority of voters feel their votes don't count. The partisan make up of the state legislature should reflect the partisan make up of the statewide voter population. If legislators can't make this happen by re-drawing the maps, then it's time for a non-partisan redistricting process.
3662		Aug 22 2017 5:28PM	Mrs. Beth Mandelkorn	"As the analysis of Indivisible Flip NC has found, the new maps are even more gerrymandered than the old maps. WE DEMAND FAIR MAPS! Fair redistricting should follow these basic principles: •Race is Key: Map drawers must ensure that it is possible for black voters to elect their candidates of choice, as required by the Voting Rights Act. •“One person, one vote:” Districts must be very equal in population and obey other laws. •Geographic Compactness: Map drawers must create compact districts, without odd tentacles. Districts must not skip over areas or join two areas at just one point. •Count Incarcerated Persons as residents of their pre-incarceration home or family residence for purposes of redistricting. •No Favoritism: Map drawers must not use the addresses of current lawmakers, or the party affiliation or voting history of voters, or other data to help a party or politician. •Respect Communities of Interest: Map drawers must avoid dividing communities with similar cultural, ethnic and economic interests; a local government district; etc. •Respect County Boundaries: Maps should make every effort to keep counties whole. •Evaluate Fairness: Before it is approved, a map must be evaluated for overall racial bias and partisan competitiveness, using tools recognized by courts to measure fairness."
3663		Aug 22 2017 5:28PM	Dr. Margaret Wagner	The new maps, while a slight improvement over the old ones, still give an unfair advantage to the GOP. If Democrats were in charge of the NCGA, they would likely draw district borders that favor the Democratic Party. This is why the ONLY acceptable method for redistricting is the use of a NONPARTISAN INDEPENDENT COMMISSION. Redistricting is not a job for elected politicians of any party. The people of North Carolina are sick and tired of not having their voices heard- a majority of both Democrats and Republicans want an independent redistricting process. The NCGA should throw out the new maps and hand over the keys to an independent, nonpartisan commission.
3664		Aug 22 2017 5:31PM	Dr. Paul Custer	The secretive, self-serving process; the pitiful notice given for consideration; the Whitney foot-dragging, all of this belongs to a long history of Jim Crow in NC, which you carry on, it seems proudly. The damage to the Republic that will flow from your cynicism will take decades to unfold. Not that you care about the Republic. Perhaps the Confederacy. NC has the form of a democracy, only as a cover for single-party rule. Jim Crow and the USSR have this very much in common.
3665		Aug 22 2017 5:33PM	Ms. Judy White	It is time for the court's to take the maps away from the republicans they are not going to be fair or honest for all voters. They know they would lose.
3666		Aug 22 2017 5:35PM	Mr. Joseph Wall	Districts should be compact and not oddly shaped. Districts must be equally populated. Do not divide communities. Make every effort to keep communities intact. Eschew the inclination to skew the drawing of district lines to favor one political party over the other. Endeavor to be guided by fairness to the exclusion of partisan politics.
3667		Aug 22 2017 5:37PM	Mr. Jacob Blair	The fact that Caldwell County is the farthest West the State is willing to listen to speaks volumes that you are not interested in listening to people in the Mountains. The Redistricting Committee does not want to hear our voice on the fact that the new districts are still unfair and ridiculous. Under the proposed maps Johnston county is split 3 ways. Senate District 3 looks absolutely absurd. Wilson County is its own separate House District. And my own Districts, Senate 47 and House 85 did not change one bit. Which is not surprising since the same people who drew the unconstitutional lines last time drew the new proposed districts. There is no way anyone who values basic decency can trust any district they propose. The only way forward is an independent non partisan commission. Gerrymandering was wrong when the Democrats did it and its just as wrong now that the Republicans are doing it. Unfortunately the current leaders are only concerned with keeping their opponents powerless rather than create free and fair elections.

3668		Aug 22 2017 5:38PM	Mr. Peter Hymas	Everything you need to know about the Republican's integrity and intent regarding redistricting is as plain as day in the sham, public redistricting hearings held at a time when pretty much all the citizens of the state have to be at work as well as in venues unequipped to handle the numbers of those who are able to attend. The Republican super-majority that runs this general assembly are racists, bigots, and true enemies of democracy. Shame on all of you. This state needs a non-partisan redistricting process that's open and transparent - everything the Republicans in power are not.
3669		Aug 22 2017 5:38PM	Mrs. Katherine Fogarty	I am in attendance at the public hearing regarding redistricting. You asked for specific input and we've heard a lot of folks express their displeasure with partisan and racial gerrymandering. To summarize the words of others and provide you with that specific input: people don't have much faith in these new maps because it doesn't appear that a real effort went into this. To get more acceptance, you need to get a bipartisan committee to work on this, hire a different map maker, and give voters time and 'backup' to approve or disapprove. Then 'sell us' on it- show us how it improves voting districts- provide a report summarizing the positive improvements.
3670		Aug 22 2017 5:39PM	Ms. Elizabeth Vazquez	Please take partisan politics out of redistricting. The state of North Carolina votes about 50% republicans and 50% democrats in most of the polling (leaving aside the independents) -- and the NCGA DOES NOT reflect this balance. I feel strongly that the legislature should have the opportunity to represent ALL North Carolinians. The current districts are so stacked as to make that practically impossible.
3671		Aug 22 2017 5:44PM	Dr. Elizabeth Sbrocco	The foundation of a representative democracy is that elected officials fairly and accurately represent the will of the people. In North Carolina, gerrymandering has perverted this basic tenant, rendering our state a failed democracy. Last year, the courts ruled that our state legislative boundaries were unconstitutional because they unfairly packed too many minority voters into too few legislative districts. Since this ruling, state legislators have continued to undermine the will of the people for over a year. They have finally released new maps and part of the data required to evaluate them, but have done so only 24 hours before the only public hearings that are currently planned before they will take a vote. As a Ph.D. Biologist with expertise in geographic information systems (GIS), statistics, and spatial analyses, and as a native North Carolinian, I take issue with these maps for the following reasons: 1) These maps were drawn by the very politicians who were unconstitutionally elected and who have undermined the will of the people in our state for the last five years. This is the equivalent of letting a criminal choose his own punishment. They cannot be trusted to do the right thing. 2) In North Carolina, election results are a proxy for race since a) less than 3% of black active voters are registered as Republicans and b) with few exceptions, Republicans do not win elections in black-majority districts. Thus, the use of election results in drawing new maps leads to undermining the will of black voters, a practice that is unconstitutional. 3) Map-makers have skillfully used GIS-based technology to go from one unconstitutional extreme to another. On one end, districts are gerrymandered by packing too many black voters into too few legislative districts. This was the problem that led to the courts.
3672		Aug 22 2017 5:46PM	Mrs. Laura Marsh	Using the same consultant who drew the illegal voting districts in the first place is a sham and a disgraceful waste of tax payer money. North Carolina is entitled to fair maps. Use a bipartisan or non-partisan committee to create the maps.
3673		Aug 22 2017 5:47PM	Ms. Jessamyn Randall	As a voter, it is deeply important to me that the voting maps at all levels be made up of compact, contiguous districts that allow citizens the opportunity to have their votes count. I believe these districts should be designed on a non partisan basis, without consideration of the incumbent party's ability to retain their seats, respecting existing communities and county boundaries, and that the process should have greater transparency and citizen input. Furthermore, it is important to me that members of the African American community and other communities of color have full exercise of their franchise.
3674		Aug 22 2017 5:53PM	Mrs. Laura Marsh	Using Tom Hofeller, the same consultant who drew illegal voting districts in North Carolina, is a sham. Using Hofeller, the same consultant who drew the illegal voting districts in the first place, is a disgraceful waste of tax payer money. Hofeller is an extreme partisan. North Carolina is entitled to fair voting districts. Appoint a bipartisan or non-partisan committee immediately to create the maps.
3675		Aug 22 2017 5:54PM	Arely Guevara	It is a crying shame that the state of North Carolina has wasted so much money drawing these maps, simply because a certain party does not care about true democracy and can not bare to relinquish their power. The state of North Carolina should set an example for our divided country and create a bi-partisan redistricting plan that will truly represent our diverse views

3676		Aug 22 2017 5:55PM	Mr. Casey Stegman	Why wasn't this map drawn in a bipartisan fashion? We have two main political parties in this state. The only fair and democratic way to draw this map is to ensure that politics as usual has been taken out of the process. But right now only one party has had a hand in drawing these maps. As a citizen in this state, I want to believe that our state government attempts to adhere to the highest degree of democratic transparency. But continually, this legislature and its members prove otherwise. As they have here.
3677		Aug 22 2017 5:55PM	Ms. Taylor Daly	I have already submitted a personal comment but would like to add another that is more technical and relates to my role as an intern at Lillian's List. The NCGA needs to release a KML file of the new proposed maps to the public. I am aware that there is a Shapefile available, but many of us cannot afford the expensive software that is compatible with this format. KML files are compatible with Google maps, which are free. In order to make this process more transparent (which it is certainly NOT, so far), the public, as well as nonprofit organizations, should be able to view the maps in something other than a simple PDF. Feel free to contact me if there is any confusion.
3678		Aug 22 2017 5:59PM	Mrs. Mary Hines	Please abandon partisanship and restore sanity and fair representation for all the people of our State. For too long, North Carolina has been in an embarrassing position, and public opinion is justifiably appalled at recent developments in North Carolina. We the People deserve better than skewed or re-skewed Districts. It's up to you and we are watching and are expecting your best response to this great responsibility.
3679		Aug 22 2017 6:01PM	Mrs. LaSonya Barnes	Stop with the gerrymandering of NC Districts. No one vote is more valuable then the other. When you rig a district to hold more value them the other its wrong and undemocratic. 1 vote 1 voice!
3680		Aug 22 2017 6:02PM	Mr. Todd Patton	<p>I strongly oppose the newly proposed, highly gerrymandered maps presented by the NC General Assembly. The maps were drawn with the express purpose of maintaining a Republican supermajority in a state that has closely divided, 50/50 statewide elections. The maps maintain this advantage by substituting election results for the previous racially gerrymandered maps, but with the same effective result. These maps are still racially gerrymandered. NC voters deserve fair maps where they can choose their elected representatives, and not have representatives choose their voters instead. Prior election results should not have been a consideration in drawing these maps.</p> <p>These new maps result in large number of wasted votes by creating Democratic-leaning districts that are 60%, 70%, or 80% Democratic, bleaching surrounding districts through the packing of minority voters and cracking of NC urban areas.</p> <p>The expected value of the efficiency gap, based on the stat pack released by the State with the draft plans is -11.98% for the Proposed House Plan and -11.87% for the Proposed Senate Plan. This huge margin gives Republicans an unwarranted advantage purely to maintain their majority status.</p> <p>EG analysis involves three steps. First, add up all of the votes each party wastes due to packing and cracking, across all of the races for a particular legislative body. Second, take the difference between the wasted votes cast for each major political party. Third, divide this difference by the total number of votes cast. The resulting percentage measures how much more effectively one party's voters are distributed compared to the other party's voters.</p> <p>The proposed districts also vary too much in total population - almost</p>
3681		Aug 22 2017 6:03PM	Mr. Thomas Jones	I am concerned for the country if gerrymandering continues. fairer districts must be made in order to preserve our country. it's our differences that make us stronger. sabotaging the voting districts will only weaken the country and our state. i implore the state legislators to do the job they were elected for and correct the gross injustice that has been done to so many citizens that reside in North Carolina. for what it's worth i have been a registered republican since 1954.
3682		Aug 22 2017 6:04PM	Michael Stone	As expected, the new gerrymandered districts are biased against Democrats. Our votes are not being counted, and this is anti-democratic. My vote should count as much as a Republican's. We need sensible, neutral district boundaries constructed by an independent commission, not by someone who created the illegal district boundaries that we have now. Protecting the incumbents from the previous bogus election should not have been a consideration in creating the new boundaries, because that simply perpetuates the original bias from these districts.

3683		Aug 22 2017 6:04PM	Julia Hardy	<p>I am concerned that the newly proposed districts were presented with very little time allowed for analysis. The fact that the same firm that created the previous districts which were declared unlawful, was used again is suspect. The gerrymandering of my previous district has been corrected and the district now appears fair, but that may be only because it was so obviously poorly drawn before. That tells me nothing about other choices.</p> <p>Here's my primary concern, and it's a big one: the people of North Carolina are obviously not being fairly represented in the legislature. A fringe minority has taken control and has brought embarrassment, ridicule, and considerable financial loss to our state. It is well known that the changes in districts that led to this situation were orchestrated by outsiders who did the same in other states. North Carolina has always been evenly balanced and the races always close, so one would expect votes to be evenly divided and contentious. However, the current situation is beyond the pale. it is wrong when legislature is plainly not following the majority voice. It is wrong that a fringe minority and extremist voice is in control of the state legislature.</p>
3684		Aug 22 2017 6:06PM	Mrs. Jennifer Miller	<p>Please take this historic redistricting opportunity to create non-partisan districts which are fair to all voters, one person, one vote, and support the idea and reality of democracy. To do otherwise is cynical and evil.</p>
3685		Aug 22 2017 6:08PM	Ms. Hunter Levinsohn	<p>I am one of a majority of North Carolinians who want non-partisan redistricting</p>
3686		Aug 22 2017 6:11PM	Mr. Gary Burnore	<p>You KNOW the right thing to do, will you do it?</p> <p>Computer generated districts are the most fair. Stop the gerrymandering. Stop the voter suppression. We'd be a great state if you put as much effort into the things we need, like affordable healthcare and REAL jobs.</p>
3687		Aug 22 2017 6:15PM	Ms. Amanda MacLaren	<p>These maps are a cynical and blatant attempt by the NC GOP to hold on to their illegally acquired power. The Court should reject for a number of reasons. Most flagrantly, they have reached well beyond the areas affected by racial gerrymandering and redrawn many districts that were completely unaffected by the Court ruling. The Court ordered the NC GOP to address a narrow set of districts it determined had been racially gerrymandered with "near-surgical precision," and the NC GOP has used the Court's order as a chance to re-draw much of the legislative map in its favor.</p> <p>We need fair maps to restore a functioning democracy to our state.</p>
3688		Aug 22 2017 6:15PM	Mr. Ralph Flegal	<p>Given that ncleg has simply thrown the proposed districts together, what is the plan to purge the voter rolls? By using bad data, ncleg will end up with bad results. Until the rolls are cleared and everyone re-registers there can not be any confidence of any election result. In all other aspects of doing business with the state, citizens must apply and re-apply for a long list of licenses, permits, pets, and registrations. Voter registration is more important than all others and should be designed correctly to get it right the first time, to a high percentage. Purge the rolls and stop playing politics. Six years between registration and expiration is a good number to start with. Require valid documentation to register and re-register for citizens.</p>
3689		Aug 22 2017 6:15PM	Ms. Bunny Simoneau	<p>It seems the public was given very short notice for a meeting held during the workweek and during the day. This does not Bode well for trusting that you have redrawn the districts fairly. Voter suppression is on the forefront now along with Republican Politicians' flirting with white supremacists for many years. Quit cheating and remember how your parents raised you to do What's right. I am tired of and ashamed to see NC on national news for disenfranchising voters and discriminating against people who are different and not white.</p>
3690		Aug 22 2017 6:16PM	Dr. Mary Curry	<p>I expected to see something less like a long snake with tumors every place on the new district maps of NC House and Senate Districts. What would be truly fair would be your passing a law to create a completely General Assembly-free, non-partisan redistricting office for NC Government. Anything less--including what your same overpaid consultant has done this time is just more political cheating. Eventually it will bite Republicans on the nose just as it is now biting Democrats</p>

3691		Aug 22 2017 6:16PM	Dr. Charles Tryon	<p>The redistricting has been a farce. First, you offered only one day for people to attend public meetings and make their views known. For those of us who have to work or have families, it is incredibly burdensome for us to be able to attend. Meetings should have been held for weeks, and there should have been a genuine opportunity for people to participate in a truly nonpartisan process.</p> <p>Second, this gerrymandering scandal belongs entirely to the NC GOP. You paid someone not once but twice to draw maps. The first time this person drew maps, it cost millions in state tax dollars to defend racist maps that few people in the state found defensible. This money could have been spent on roads, schools, or parks. Instead, we have to pay for illegally gerrymandered maps that make us the laughingstock of the entire country. Then you pay the same person who cost our state \$4.8 million in court fees another \$50,000 to draw more partisan (read gerrymandered) maps that will AGAIN go to court so that we can AGAIN pay potentially millions of dollars in court costs.</p> <p>Once again, these maps seem deliberately designed not to be competitive. Only 19 of 120 House races are classified as competitive (16%) and only 10 of 50 Senate races (20%). This means that the vast majority of elected officials are not truly responsive to the needs and desires of their voters. This leads to polarization on a massive scale and has contributed to the toxic environment that permeates our NCGA. This is undemocratic. It perpetuates all of the flaws of the previous maps, and the state is approximately \$5 million poorer as a result. Create better maps.</p>
3692		Aug 22 2017 6:18PM	Mr. Vince Beasley	David Lewis does not give a damn what anyone has to say about the legislative districts... he has again created "new" districts that give Republicans an advantage in a disproportionate number of districts. Republicans are choosing their constituents - the opposite of what true democracy should be. STOP GERRYMANDERING NOW!!
3693		Aug 22 2017 6:19PM	John Fulton	What is you plan to fix this current violation of voters rights?
3694		Aug 22 2017 6:20PM	Liesl Dineen	Please just stop. Stop wasting our money to keep us from voting fairly. Give us fair maps using real technology. It's actually how this whole thing is supposed to work. We vote, you earn our votes. Aren't you as sick of the cheating as we are? Surely it gets boring...
3695		Aug 22 2017 6:25PM	Alanna Adams	<p>As a North Carolinian, I am very disappointed with the legislative maps that have been newly proposed for the state House and Senate districts. This process has repeatedly been conducted in ways that are illegal, obscured from the public, entirely partisan, and at the expense of North Carolinian voters based on race and ethnicity. How can state senators fully and appropriately represent so many municipalities? The maps currently being offered were drawn behind closed doors and voters were not given sufficient time to review proposed maps before scheduled public hearings. I'm a proud resident of the state of North Carolina. I want and expect representatives to the General Assembly to deliver nonpartisan and contiguous districts through a transparent process. That means no longer using the same consultant who has unfairly and unconstitutionally drawn these maps in the past. A majority of the Joint House and Senate Redistricting Committee have at one time been on the record as supporting nonpartisan redistricting. These new maps continue the unacceptable practice of partisan gerrymandering (via taking prior voter registration and past election data into account), giving the majority party an unharnessed advantage while shielding those same elected officials from accountability. Voters must be given a valid choice at the ballot box and it must start now with the rejection of the current proposal. I'm sick of this treatment of North Carolina's voters and I expect better.</p>
3696		Aug 22 2017 6:27PM	Mr. Matt Morain	<p>Redistricting should be done by a nonpartisan committee, not by any party. Sure, we can't purge all bias or slant from the process, but a nonpartisan committee would give our state's citizens the best chance to perform their civic duty and their sacred right to vote. The last maps were unconstitutionally racist precisely because one party wanted to be in and stay in power; when the same person hired for that job is hired for this one, what kind of message is that sending to our voters? What kind of message is that sending to the rest of the country?</p> <p>Stop partisan gerrymandering. Start using nonpartisan committees. The former is cowardice; the latter is the right thing to do.</p> <p>The people are watching, and we will not be quiet on this issue.</p> <p>Respectfully, -Matt Morain</p>
3697		Aug 22 2017 6:29PM	Mr. Steven Kroeger	<p>I support an open/transparent and bi-partisan or independent process for legislative redistricting. The new maps were not developed accordingly and I do not support the new districts.</p> <p>I appreciated the statewide meetings held today (August 22, 2017) to solicit public comment</p>

3698		Aug 22 2017 6:31PM	Ms. Gina Cruz	<p>My name is Gina Cruz. I’m the North Carolina State Director for Progressive Turnout Project. I’m also a concerned North Carolinian who lives here in Raleigh. Progressive Turnout Project has been working tirelessly to fight for fair maps for myself and my fellow North Carolinians.</p> <p>We deserve fair voting maps that are drawn by a non-partisan redistricting commission.</p> <p>We deserve maps that are drawn without the use of any partisan voter data.</p> <p>We deserve maps that comply with the Voting Rights Act.</p> <p>We deserve maps that don’t protect incumbents who won based on maps that were ruled racially gerrymandered.</p> <p>We deserve access to the map drawing process.</p> <p>We deserve ample time to both review the maps and plan to attend these public comment periods. Four days is not sufficient time for new maps to be reviewed. It cuts the public out of the process. Holding these meetings at 4 pm on a Tuesday afternoon is unfair to the working class families who you represent.</p>
3699		Aug 22 2017 6:33PM	Michael Brown	<p>We deserve representatives who actually represent North Carolinians My kindergarden teacher taught me that 2 wrongs do not make a right. Just because we drew partisan districts in the past does not mean we should allow it in the future just because "They did it to us now we'll do it to them".</p>
3700		Aug 22 2017 6:34PM	Mr. Vance Miller	Although it may be legal to draw district lines based on the party affiliations of constituents, it is not ethical. Please draw our districts based on geography, population densities, and communities, not race, politics, or wealth.
3701		Aug 22 2017 6:38PM	Mr. Tanner Methven	We need to put an end to this undemocratic use of gerrymandering to keep one party in power. NC must be better than this.
3702		Aug 22 2017 6:38PM	Ms. Juliann Lanser	<p>I could not come today as, like most people in North Carolina, I have a job and my day ends hours and hours after 4PM. I am depressed and angry that you choose such a time, it is obviously a purposeful effort to limit citizens access to the maps and open discussion. By choosing the limited number of venues that only allows a relatively small amount of occupants, you are again trying to suppress the voice of the people. You are additionally giving us very little time to see the data used to form the new maps.</p> <p>My father, who is still living, was a WW2 B52 bomber pilot. I wonder if you could look him in the eye and say that this was the democratic [note little "d"] process that he fought for and to preserve. Please, do better by the people of NC. Be fair. Be American.</p>
3703		Aug 22 2017 6:43PM	Mrs. Claudia Lange	While I appreciate the opportunity to attend this meeting, I am appalled at the lengths members of the NCGA will go to make it as difficult as possible for the public to express their thoughts and concerns about the issue of gerrymandering, as well as other issues. Let's look at this together, shall we? First, the meeting was at 4pm in the afternoon, a time when most working people are doing just that - working. Secondly, on June 5, 2017, the US Supreme Court affirmed the lower court ruling that 28 of North Carolina's legislative districts were illegally gerrymandered, which diluted the voting impact of black voters. The ruling took place in June but here we are at the end of August, given notice of only a few days to review the maps, and attend a public meeting to express our views. This is evidence, in my opinion, the many in the NCGA are really not interested in what the citizens have to say unless it furthers their own agenda or supports their reelection. There is a pattern of dismissive behavior of the NCGA towards the citizens of NC, from whom they get their power. Finally, the same man who drew the 2011 NC maps found unconstitutional was hired to redraw our maps at our expense. That is a complete disgrace and unconscionable waste of tax payer money. As one who is partially footing the bill for all of these political shenanigans, I demand better maps, I demand transparency in the process, and I demand that I be represented by those who care about the people - again, from whom legislator get their power - and not simply furthering their own careers.
3704		Aug 22 2017 6:48PM	Ms. Mary Goodkind	<p>In order for North Carolina to have a representative government that works, we need to end gerrymandering. Neither the Republicans nor the Democrats should have control. We need a non-partisan redistricting commission that can make impartial and fair decisions that protect voters' rights and that ensures that the legislature really represents the will of the people</p>

3705		Aug 22 2017 6:56PM	Mr. Jeffrey Marcus	<p>The reports I hear about the new redistricting maps is that they are severely gerrymandered. This would be consistent with the stated intent of those working on the map: to substitute political data for racial data to end up with the same result of a severely tilted playing field. This is bad government. It was bad when the Democrats did it, and it is equally bad from the Republicans, perhaps even worse with the use of Big Data to surgically draw lines intentionally to create an unfair outcome. The result is an erosion of our democracy. Our government is not truly representative of the people. About 50% of North Carolinians vote Republican, but more than 2/3 of the representatives to Congress and state Legislature are Republican. This makes me feel disenfranchised. By either packing or stacking voters, it makes me feel that my vote doesn't really matter- the outcomes are predetermined. When politicians represent "safe" districts, they do not need to be accountable to their voters. The greatest threat to them politically is to be challenged from the fringe of their party when a greater percentage of activists (either left or right) vote in the primary. This has contributed to the polarization of our political discourse. There is no incentive for politicians to work together across the isle, and every dis-incentive to do so. I strongly urge you to scrap this unfair, gerrymandered map making effort and enshrine a non-partisan system of delineating districts with a GIS-based system that avoids partisan bias. This would be the one biggest thing you could do to improve the citizens faith in our democratic system and to improve political discourse. It would mean a short-term diminishing of power for the Republican party, but would balance itself in the long run (Democrats will take over eventually) and would be much better governance. Please put the interests of the all people and of our democracy above the interests of your party. Thank you for your consideration.</p>
3706		Aug 22 2017 6:59PM	Colin Thomson	<p>The proposed map is especially troublesome because it strengthens the position of the controlling party without addressing-- and perhaps reinforces-- the racial bias that caused the old map to be rejected.</p>
3707		Aug 22 2017 7:02PM	Ms. Carissa Trotta	<p>I want to provide my input in regards to the redistricting of our maps. I want the new maps to comply with the Voting Rights Act and ensure that it's possible for black voters to elect their candidates of choice. I want the maps to be free from partisan politics (ignore voter registration data, past election results, incumbent addresses, etc.) and ensure maps are not drawn to unduly favor a particular party, candidate or lawmaker. This process should be left to an objective, scientific entity that is not the House nor the Senate. Not Democratic or Republican or Independent.</p> <p>I believe that the current redistricting process continues to be overly partisan and lacks transparency. Maps were drawn behind closed doors and voters were not given sufficient time to review proposed maps before scheduled public hearings.</p> <p>A majority of the Joint House & Senate Redistricting Committee is on the record as supporting nonpartisan redistricting in the past. And yet, the current committee rejected nonpartisan redistricting standards now.</p> <p>Instead, these new maps once again perpetuate the cycle of gerrymandering. The proposed districts appear designed to give the majority party maximum advantage, shielding politicians from accountability to the public, while depriving voters of a choice and a voice at the ballot box.</p>
3708		Aug 22 2017 7:11PM	Dr. Juanita Brown	<p>To Whom It May Concern:</p> <p>I am an Independent from Yancey County (and there are many of us here who are watching this process to see who we will be supporting in the next elections.)</p> <p>We urge you to develop a fair and impartial re-districting process that can create a balanced approach that does not favor either Democrats or Republicans but favors our citizens and each persons fair opportunity to express their voting preferences without the boundaries "tipping" the outcome in any particular partisan direction. You might be happily surprised at the result of a fair and balanced approach!</p> <p>Thank you for considering ALL of your constituents....we are watching and waiting to see your response.</p> <p>Respectfully, Juanita Brown</p>
3709		Aug 22 2017 7:14PM	Alisa Thorne	<p>Stop wasting my tax \$ on court cases to defend illegal, white supremacist voting districts. Do the right thing for once and draw districts that are fair to everyone in the state. It's not that hard.</p>
3710		Aug 22 2017 7:14PM	Mr. Thomas Shafer	<p>The process of redistricting in response to the Court's determination that the current districts were drawn along racial gerrymanders has been filled with fraud and deception as Republicans continue to create safe districts for themselves and caged-vote districts for Democrats. The only way to insure fair representation in our General Assembly and in Congress is through a BIPARTISAN REDISTRICTING PROCESS. No one party should ever again dominate the redistricting.</p>

3711		Aug 22 2017 7:16PM	Bryan Shalloway	<p>I support districts that promote both fair representation and logical demarcations. District lines should...</p> <p>1.) Promote a proportional relationship between citizen interests and legislative representation.</p> <p>2.) Facilitate a representatives ability to easily travel through and meet constituents in central locations (favoring district shapes that minimize the maximum end to end distance of a district).</p> <p>Following such principles is vital to our states social, economic, and ... , , ,</p>
3712		Aug 22 2017 7:21PM	Mr. Jon Fox	<p>Every voice in North Carolina should count equally, but this is not the case due to a broken redistricting process. Our legislators efforts to game North Carolina’s voting maps to their advantage has left all of us—but especially, people of color, native people, students and the poor—to bear the brunt of superstorms, polluted water, and poor health. We need to make “one person, one vote” a reality in our democracy so we make better decisions for all of us.</p> <p>As our state legislator considers fixing our electoral maps, they must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be transparent, impartial, and fair for all North Carolinians. 2. Take partisan politics out of the process. Instead, give the people of North Carolina a real say in the map drawing process. 3. Ensure the communities of interest aren’t broken up and geographies distorted for political gain. 4. Lead to outcomes that fairly represent the will of the people. <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Jon Fox Senior Democracy Campaigner Friends of the Earth - United States</p>
3713		Aug 22 2017 7:24PM	Kelly Jarrett	<p>Please appoint an independent nonpartisan redistricting committee. We, the voters, are supposed to elect legislators. You are note supposed to choose us. The discrepancy between the numbers of democratic vs republican votes overall and the number of GOP vs democratic legislators reveals how skewed this partisan redistricting process is. It is fundamentally unfair and antidemocratic. The current legislature was illegally elected based on illegal maps. They have no business being in charge of redrawing them again.</p>
3714		Aug 22 2017 7:26PM	Ms. Irene Godinez	<p>I am dismayed that the NC Legislature continues to be make the same redistricting mistakes, whether it's Democrats at the helm, or Republicans. You have the chance to do the right thing, but you keep choosing to retain power for your Party over what's best for citizens across NC, such as choosing their own elected officials. The love and pursuit of power in the manner that you've done over the years since taking control of the legislature--by harming citizens that you too represent--is unGodly, immoral, and and embarrassment to all North Carolinians.</p>
3715		Aug 22 2017 7:26PM	Cynthia Campbell	<p>I am very disappointed with the new maps the legislature has drawn for our state districts. This was an opportunity for our state to show we can be better. That we can rise above partisanship. That we can be brave enough to enfranchise all North Carolinians, not just those of one party or the other. We have had enough gerrymandering. Do better. BE better</p>
3716		Aug 22 2017 7:27PM	Mr. Lee Rafalow	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If you had planned to make the public hearing today frustrating you couldn't have done a better job. Multiple sites all in one hearing, terrible technology, couldn't hear 90% of testimony, freeze frame images, Spectrum commercials,.... You did not have a public hearing, you demonstrated your lack of interest in public input. 2. 80% of NC polled said they don't want you deciding who gets to vote for you: with crosstab: 70% of Trump voters & 88% of Clinton voters. Ie., a significant majority of YOUR constituents don't want you deciding who votes for whom. 3. You released new maps just 2 days ago and without any demographic data. There's no way to make any reasonable comments on your maps. 4. I'm tired of paying for both sides in law suits against the NCGA on redistricting: I voluntarily contribute to plaintiff organizations and then my taxes pay to defend your uniformly illegal district maps. I'm mad and I'm not alone. 5. I'm tired of my vote not counting. You have disenfranchised me and millions of others by packing and cracking districts. It doesn't matter how I vote, you've predetermined the outcome. Hopefully the Supreme Court will put an end to this partisan gerrymandering nonsense but if you have an ounce of integrity you'll put an end to it now. 6. I was mad when Democrats did partisan gerrymandering and I'm mad that Republicans are gerrymandering. Act as if you're a nonpartisan redistricting commission for this set of maps and then formalize an independent commission for all future maps. Be for state and country first, then be a partisan; not the other way around.
3717		Aug 22 2017 7:32PM	Ms. April Coggins	<p>We need fair redistricting, not gerrymandering that benefits one party. Our government should be a voice of the people and represent the people of NC. The mapping of districts should not be politicized.</p>

3718		Aug 22 2017 7:33PM	Ms. Ida Glasgow	Partisan redistricting is wrong no matter which party does it. Please approve districts that are fair to all voters, no matter their party. Legislators should not choose their voters. Voters should choose their legislators, with each person's vote having equal weight. The maps you have proposed do not do this. Do the right thing.
3719		Aug 22 2017 7:34PM	Dr. Alice Stewart	Dear NCGA: I am writing to suggest that the General Assembly is a politically neutral approach to determining the new districts in NC. There are many mathematical techniques that could create convenient be balanced by factors such as similar geography and making the districts as physically compact as possible. I do not feel there has been enough opportunity to evaluate your process. Let's get this right this time!
3720		Aug 22 2017 7:39PM	Daniel Campbell	This is ridiculous. The new district maps do not sufficiently address the court's order. I think the court should reject the new maps. All they show is the willingness of the Republicans to grab power by whatever means become available. All these maps show is the disdain the majority party has for the majority of North Carolina's citizens.
3721		Aug 22 2017 7:48PM	Laura Reich	19 of 120 House districts being competitive is unacceptable!! Start over.
3722		Aug 22 2017 7:50PM	Mr. Robert Sowa	It's time to stand up and move to nonpartisan redistricting. If you believe you have the best plans for the state than prove it without gaming the system. Otherwise, any victory will be tainted. Be strong. Make it right.
3723		Aug 22 2017 7:57PM	Mr. Clarence Henderson	It is amazing that the race card is thrown around by the party that Democratic Party when they are not in charge. There is constant talk about blacks being under represented by the Republican Party. History tells me that they have not been well served when The Democratic Party is in charge. I am pleased that the General Assembly has drawn these maps in a colorblind way, with no racial data. These maps comply with the Voting Rights Act, as well as all existing and revelant court preicnts.
3724		Aug 22 2017 7:59PM	Ms. Patricia Reed	Redraw the lines
3725		Aug 22 2017 8:01PM	Ms. Sophia Bessias	Those gerrymandered districts with "surgical precision" to target voters of color cannot be trusted to draw fair maps now, much less behind closed doors. They are working tirelessly to preserve minority rule in the general assembly through deception and disenfranchisement. Even with one day's notice, I can see that their latest attempt is no better for the people of NC. These maps and their makers need to go. Only an independent commission can be trusted to create fair districts that reflect the political diversity of our state.
3726		Aug 22 2017 8:09PM	Dr. Alice Franks	I strongly support nonpartisan redistricting. It is time to have independent entities draw districts. The time for tit for tat is over. It is time to restore trust in the system through fair elections. Currently I do not believe in the process, it appears that efforts are being made to cut people out of the Democratic process. Please show integrity in this process and begin to restore faith in our system.
3727		Aug 22 2017 8:12PM	Marshall Botvinick	The courts have given the General Assembly a wonderful opportunity to restore trust in the legislative branch and our institutions. I sincerely hope that our legislators take it. Early signs, however, suggest that the General Assembly plans on pulling the same gerrymandering shenanigans they pulled in 2011. They've hired the same mapmaker who drew the unconstitutional maps last time. They've given the public approximately 48 hours to review their maps before holding a public hearing. And the districts are still designed to maximize the GOP's advantage. Early analysis shows that Democrats would have to win the statewide vote by 9% just to eke out a majority in both chambers. There is nothing fair about these maps, and I suspect they don't pass legal muster either. For instance, in Wake County, House Districts 33 and 38 were ruled racial gerrymanders. Instead of remedying the underlying problem of inequity in Wake County, the GOP has simply used this as an opportunity to draw slightly safer districts for the three Republican representatives in the county. At best, this is in accordance with the letter of the court's ruling and not the spirit. At worst, it shows flagrant disregard for the courts. The legislature needs to seek input from nonpartisan analysts and use their insights to help craft maps that are fair and legal. For the well-being of democracy in this state, please pursue a non-partisan solution to the redistricting process.
3728		Aug 22 2017 8:16PM	Ms. Stefanie Bullard	NC's redistricting voting maps must be fair and allow EACH and EVERY North Carolinian an equal say in all elections- with no obstacles placed and fairness for all. The new maps are not good or fair for ALL North Carolinians or North Carolina.

3729		Aug 22 2017 8:18PM	Betsy Williams	I object to the districts proposed by the NCGA, House and Senate, which have been drawn by the same person who drew the districts found illegal in the court case. The only fair way, for both parties, is to have the districts drawn by a non-partisan and independent commission agreed to by all parties. Districts must be compact, without dividing communities and which preserve the strength of each vote. Politicians should not choose the voters, we choose the representative. The districts need to be based on population only and not designed to use voting history or built in protections for incumbents. Illegal districting resulted in what are considered unbreakable majorities in both branches of the legislative assembly and these are the people doing it again, against the demands from the court. We need fair representation for everyone in North Carolina. Use an independent commission to draw the districts.
3730		Aug 22 2017 8:24PM	Susan Pfeiffer	YOUR tactics of confusing and inconveniencing YOUR constituents is reprehensible. Sunday and Monday new maps were apparently released somewhere. For two days I have been researching what data I could find to attempt to educate myself to YOUR unconstitutional gerrymandering of my North Carolina voting districts. Not only was I unsuccessful in finding a comprehensive presentation of YOUR proposed re-districting, I am also aware that had I chosen to drive a long distance to YOUR inconvenient hearing venue for my district 11, I would not have had a seat. THIS IS NOT DEMOCRACY. YOU GERRYMANDER THE DISTRICTS SO THE CURRENT MEMBERS OF MY CONGRESS WERE ELECTED ILLEGALLY. THEN YOU HIRE THE SAME MAN WHO DREW THE UNCONSTITUTIONAL MAPS TO REDRAW THEM, SO THE SAME ILLEGALLY ELECTED OFFICIALS CAN BE ILLEGALLY ELECTED AGAIN??? My ability to understand YOUR proposed legislation and attend public hearings is my right and YOU HAVE NOT ALLOWED ME TO DO SO. YOU ARE ALLOWING MY VOTE NOT TO MATTER.
3731		Aug 22 2017 8:24PM	Ms. Jeanette Burlock	By creating districts that do not reflect the population and the way North Carolinians vote, instead creating districts stacked to keep the Republicans in power with veto proof majorities this group of legislators is serving a great injustice on the people of NC. I ask that you do the just and moral thing by making the districts better represent the population. The lack of trust in state government in this state is because of the legislators consistently choosing to do what is in their best interest rather than what is in the people's/voter's best interest. Please nix these maps and start again to create maps that are fair and impartial. It is the right thing to do.
3732		Aug 22 2017 8:27PM	Jamie Bradway	None of these maps will be fair or conducive to representative democracy until they're drawn scientifically by impartial parties. You may think you're getting back at the Democrats after a century as the minority party, but you're just perpetuating harm to our democratic institutions. It's not about winning or revenge. It's about doing the right thing
3733		Aug 22 2017 8:30PM	Lindsay Rivera	The newly released map perpetuates a shameful history of gerrymandering, specifically in regards to race, in North Carolina. This gerrymandering is in direct opposition to free and open elections which is a necessary foundation of our democratic government. In particular, this technique is being used as a tool to marginalize people of color and suppress their votes. This is not okay. In the new maps, 90% of the districts are non-competitive. Maps must be redrawn without partisan advantage on either side.
3734		Aug 22 2017 8:38PM	Mrs. Penny Grainger	Please keep Columbus County TOGETHER! WE NEED SOMEONE WHO KNOWS OUR COUNTY & IT NEEDS TO BE THE SAME PERSON FOR THE ENTIRE COUNTY THANK YOU
3735		Aug 22 2017 8:38PM	Lynn Lewis	I am disappointed with the redistricting of North Carolina. The people of NC would be better served if the districts were drawn by an independent, no biased agency. We the people of North Carolina deserve the best our representatives can provide us. Our representatives care more about the lobbyists and their parties than the people. The people of NC deserve competitive districts
3736		Aug 22 2017 8:40PM	Mrs. Raines Kuppin	In order to insure fair competitive districts, previous political data should NOT be considered when drawing new districts. And, sadly, these proposed maps were clearly drawn for partisan advantage. The citizens of NC deserve better!!
3737		Aug 22 2017 8:40PM	Sarah Leroux	The citizens of NC deserve fair maps. The maps should be created by an independent non-partisan committee. Everyone should have their voice/vote matter. Gerrymandering by race or politics prevents this. This process has been an embarrassment. The person hired to create the maps has already shown he can not create constitutional maps. The maps were delayed so the public did not have time to review them. The public hearing process was a joke. The room for Guilford county only held 30 people! The audio in the overflow room was insufficient for the beginning of the hearing. Reports from other locations showed similar issues at those locations. The majority of comments were for fair redistricting, fair maps. Please listen to the people and give us fair maps.

3738		Aug 22 2017 8:41PM	David Lampen	<p>All new districts should abide by the federal district court's ruling in Whitford v. Gill. It is simply the right thing to do. Partisan gerrymandering undermines the one human, one vote principle. It makes government less accountable and responsive. It is bad for all Americans, including North Carolinians. If that won't persuade the legislature, do you want to be back in the same position in two years, redrawing districts that will only last one election cycle? Save yourselves and the people of North Carolina the time, effort, and frustration, and draw fair nonpartisan districts now.</p> <p>But how are we to know if the districts are fair and nonpartisan? The redistricting must release the data it used to design 5 districts. It must also release a more detailed map so that constituents in boundary areas can see what district they would love it if the plan passes. The redistricting committee's lack of transparency this summer has been shameful. Senator Meredith, we are watching.</p>
3739		Aug 22 2017 8:45PM	Mrs. Cristel Orrand	<p>The people of NC clearly want independent and fair redistricting, something this legislature has repeatedly ignored.</p> <p>Representative Lewis stated on Twitter last night that he openly acknowledges the party gain and feels that pretending to be nonpartisan is "self serving". How is this man allowed to preside over a "bipartisan committee"?</p> <p>Another \$50k to Hofeller, added to the over \$5M in legal fees this state has spent on redistricting lawsuits, only for us to be in the exact same situation we were in a week ago, a year ago, 2 yrs ago....</p> <p>The people of NC do not trust the NCGA. We don't want Democrats drawing the maps and we definitely don't want Republicans drawing the maps. More than 1/3 of the nation now identifies as unaffiliated and it's because of things like gerrymandering.</p> <p>We want INDEPENDENT redistricting and oversight according to the latest methods, including the efficiency gap analysis, contiguity excepting bodies of water and non traversable area, but most importantly, we want to choose our reps- not our reps choosing us.</p> <p>I'd like to think public comment will have some impact on this body, but I doubt it. Mostly likely will see this in court. Again. And Again until the 2020 Census where we can start all over. In the meantime, consider how many votes youre losing by continuing in this lack of representation of people.</p>
3740		Aug 22 2017 8:46PM	Mr. Matthew Bailey	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>The proposed general redistricting shows a clear intent to undermine democracy in this state. People in this state must have a way to participate in this democracy by voting, and by providing an opportunity for their vote to be heard. This map was drawn with the intent to disenfranchise voters, which is entirely unacceptable. It makes elections in this state no better than the undemocratic farce that got dictators like Putin re-elected. Please re-draw this map to ensure that everyone has a voice in this state's politics.</p> <p>Thanks, Matthew Bailey</p>
3741		Aug 22 2017 8:57PM	Margaret Cahill	Voters want fair and objective redistricting lines.
3742		Aug 22 2017 8:59PM	Ms. Joanna Parkman	I fully support nonpartisan redistricting in North Carolina to ensure just elections throughout our state.
3743		Aug 22 2017 9:00PM	Dr. Jamie Boyle	I am sad to hear that the redistributing maps continue to unfairly promote party over the public.
3744		Aug 22 2017 9:01PM	Ms. Ursula Smith	<p>The house map makes no sense. Mecklenburg County voter should not be tied into Stan Lee County voters. We are not Neighbors. They are fine people but we don't go to the same Schools, jobs, or churches. Fire your consultant and hire a non-partisan professional to get this right. Gerrymandering is stupid no matter who does it. Stop trying to silence us and to suppress our vote. Your lack of Courage does not give you the right to stifle the rest of us. If you believe in your platform you should be able to share it and convince others to follow you regardless of their political affiliation. You are embarrassing our state and yourselves. NO MORE GERRYMANDERING. Let's get back to real issues. How can we increase the competitiveness of our state by preparing all of our citizens for the future?</p>

3745		Aug 22 2017 9:03PM	Mr. Parish Moffitt	<p>I for one would like to thank the committee for their hard work with this redistricting plan. While no plan is perfect and someone will always be unhappy with the results, I believe that this plan is fair and is the best that can be done for now. I have heard several groups suggest this week that race was not taken into account and minority populations would not be represented. I do believe that what has gotten us into this position was the maps that had taken race into consideration. The very thing that caused us to redraw the districts is what some groups want us to take back into consideration again.</p> <p>I believe there are certain groups that are simply asking for redistricting until they win. It is akin to a child changing the rules of a game of tag because they did not achieve the winning result they had hoped for. It is my firm opinion that pretty much no matter how you slice the cake short of disregarding the state constitution that advocates for continuity (that has been achieved in as many areas as possible), the results of the state legislature would remain roughly the same.</p> <p>So once again, I commend the work accomplished under such conditions and with the rushed timeline and believe that these new districts do accomplish a fair and legal drawing of the districts, are contiguous and compact, observe the single county principle. I believe that the courts should respect the authority of the state legislature and the state Constitution.</p>
3746		Aug 22 2017 9:03PM	Ms. Katherine Spangler	I am a registered Independent voter who is concerned about gerrymandering in North Carolina. I am strongly in favor of nonpartisan districts that reflect the will of the voters, NOT partisan politics! Let us have our voice.
3747		Aug 22 2017 9:06PM	Dr. Holly Sopko	I demand that rationales and data be provided with new maps. When the highest court in the land calls your maps racist, a new and transparent approach is needed. Mathematicians have models and methods that draw fair maps. Why isn't the committee using them?
3748		Aug 22 2017 9:11PM	Mr. Douglas Shartzter	<p>I would like to propose that districts be drawn using computer software.</p> <p>Computer software has lots of advantages, such as transparency. Anyone can review the software and see the methods and logic used to determine the boundaries. The merits of these methods can be discussed openly when the bill detailing the requirements are drafted. Discussions on that bill will provide the opportunity to understand the motivations of those requirements. People don't have the opportunity to assume the worst because the process is available for anyone to understand.</p> <p>A computer program can also provide consistency in applying the logic uniformly and assure that all data is read and interpreted in the same manner. It also eliminates the potential for simple calculation errors or false assumptions.</p> <p>Lastly, a computer program can provide a lot of flexibility where you can integrate all sorts of different data from many different sources to determine boundaries. You can make sure, if desired, that all districts are similar size, have similar population sizes, are as compact as possible or meet whatever demographic goals are necessary.</p> <p>I really appreciate the opportunity to share my views and thank you for your service to our state!</p>
3749		Aug 22 2017 9:13PM	Mr. Kenneth Dalsheimer	<p>I attended today's hearings in Raleigh and echo the majority of opinions expressed opposing the maps presented and demanding that new maps be created by an independent, non-partisan committee. Some of the items I would like to echo which you heard many, many times today are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a majority of North Carolina citizens believe it is unfair to politicians of either party fo draw their own maps - the redistricting process must be transparent (which this was not), oppose any racial or partisan gerrymandering (which the new and old maps do), nor allow politicians (e.g. the group that drew these maps) to pick their voters (e.g. it is the citizen voters of NC that should pick our representatives) - The hearing today and the limited time allowed for public input and review is insulting and you should be ashamed - I was appalled and angered to learn that the same consultant responsible for creating illegal, racist maps just a few years ago was PAID to draw these new maps. - The new maps are racist and represent a continuation of White Supremacist electoral policies the GOP majority has promoted to retain power - Any claim that the new maps are driven by partisan data is bogus. These maps continue the racist voting rights practices of the NC GOP - This process is not transparent and the process was intentionally made to make it almost impossible to review the maps and data and begin an important public process of critique and analysis. Based on what I heard today, the maps presented need to be tossed. - The maps presented represent an attack on our democracy and on voting rights of all North Carolinians. - How is it ethical to allow lawmakers elected from illegal districts to

3750		Aug 22 2017 9:15PM	Dr. Juneko Grilley-Olson	Please please PLEASE rise above politics and appoint a true bipartisan or better yet nonpartisan group to draw the maps. The proposed map is every bit as politically dirty as the first. Shame on you.
3751		Aug 22 2017 9:19PM	Mrs. Anita Sauer	Shameful that the GOP led ncgsa gives us 1 day to come out and speak on these "just released" maps. And in cramped rooms on a Tuesday at 4pm? We deserve fair maps. Maps we can trust. How can we trust maps drawn up by same person that drew up the racially biased partisan gerrymandering maps struck down by SCOTUS in the first place? Let the courts draw the maps! Thank you
3752		Aug 22 2017 9:20PM	Mr. Stephen Underwood	I want to express my concerns in regards to the proposed redistricting map. As a business owner in a small community I feel its important to have local representation. Looking at the proposed map part of our county could have representation as far away as Pender County who may spend little focus in our area. We need local representation from our community, a community that is working together to better our county. Our county does not need division but to be united with local representation.
3753		Aug 22 2017 9:21PM	Debra Murray	We need to bring democracy back to NC, where our votes actually have some meaning, and not minimized and manipulated by the group in power. There is nothing so disheartening and depressing as knowing you have no voice, there is no "We the People," and it hardly feels like America, or at least what I was taught our country stood for. There have been small attempts are fair re-districting. Give that moment the space it needs to grow, and bring in non-partisan districting
3754		Aug 22 2017 9:22PM	Mr. William McCall	I am disappointed in the NCGA in their failure to provide adequate transparency into the redistricting process and adequate time to review the proposed new districts. Due to the short duration between the maps being released and the public hearing I did not have time to properly review the maps. However even if I had been afforded the time I would not have been able to attend due to the hearings being held at 4pm. It is disappointing that the NCGA does not value feedback from professionals. Had there been adequate notice of the hearing I could have taken time off but at such short notice it was not possible. However the full maps and accompanying data have been released I have reviewed them now. Disappointment redoubled! Nearly every redrawn district is more not less partisan. Every time the NCGA is given an opportunity to act in a responsible manner they fail, and they fail because they are unwilling to address their own shortcomings. SAD!
3755		Aug 22 2017 9:23PM	Mr. Aaron Welborn	After reviewing the proposed redistricting maps, I am distressed to see that the current majority party in the General Assembly has no regard for the voices of the people they represent, and only regard for the preservation of political power by any means necessary. These districts continue the same-old, same-old partisan practice of allowing representatives to choose their voters, rather than the other way around. It would be far fairer and more service-minded to follow the example of an independent, nonpartisan panel convened at Duke University last year, which demonstrated that redistricting is possible without making partisan dominance the sole objective. Rather, equal representation and full voter participation should be the goals: https://sanford.duke.edu/articles/nonpartisan-redistricting-panel-reveals-unofficial-nc-congressional-voting-map
3756		Aug 22 2017 9:26PM	Katharine Ray	Y'all are using the same person whose boundaries were ruled to be racist and illegal! It's unfair that you get to draw these. Stand up by lettina an impartial group of citizens redistrict.
3757		Aug 22 2017 9:27PM	Samuel Villegas	If this map were being drawn in a third world country it would not pass muster. It will bring further negative attention to NC. This state is more or less evenly divided along Party lines. To 'overreach' to use a term you like is unseemly and definitely unfair. A vibrant two Party system is to be desired. It will keep everyone honest and promote bipartisan cooperation to achieve the common good. It will create countervailing forces to minimize extremist ideology. Safe districts result in factions within the Party that result in the most extreme views being represented but 'elected' in a primary from a small subset of voters. The General Election should be required to win an election. Allow the Federal judges to draw the maps if you are unable to employ a bipartisan commission. These maps are completely self serving and unfair. A false promise you made.
3758		Aug 22 2017 9:32PM	Mr. Brody Wooten	I don't think the new maps include enough competitive districts. Additionally, the analysis I've seen in the papers so far indicates that the districts that would be considered competitive still tend to lean heavily towards one party or the other. I would like to see the general assembly rework these maps to include more competitive districts.
3759		Aug 22 2017 9:33PM	Ms. Jessica Chapman	I may not know other cities as well as I do Charlotte, but the map does look heavily tilted. So, fix it. Please and thank you.

3760		Aug 22 2017 9:36PM	Mr. Justin Conley	<p>I was unable to give my comments due to large lines and too small rooms.</p> <p>I was happy to be able to discuss these partisan maps today, but before I begin I want to point out that it's only due to the flexibility of my work that I could have stood there and defend the idea of impartiality in how we elect our leaders.</p> <p>At this very moment millions of my fellow North Carolinians are hard at work unable to take part in this process.</p> <p>Need we be reminding that America was founded on the ideal of government -- of, by, and for the people. Our great state deserves qualified leaders fairly elected to represent their interests in Raleigh.</p> <p>But that's not happening.</p> <p>I'm sort of a new Mecklenburg County resident, I like a lot of rural North Carolinians who move to our large municipalities for work. We're joined by the hundreds of people coming to North Carolina daily from around the country seeking a better future right here. Our state is changing and in order to harness the potential we have as a state, we need to ensure we have a government that reflects its people.</p> <p>Elections should be simple. The party that gets the most votes should win the most seats in Congress and in our state legislature.</p> <p>But that is not what is happening.</p> <p>By drawing maps that protect incumbent legislators of the majority party, you're showing that you are more interested in gaining the</p>
3761		Aug 22 2017 9:44PM	Ms. Patricia Rieser	<p>I was fortunate to be able to attend the Aug 22 hearing at the NCGA in Raleigh. I wish I had been fortunate enough to hear and see the proceedings in the overflow room I was in. A significant percentage of the time was spent dealing with AV issues that kept us from hearing and seeing what was happening. Having these hearings at 4pm on a Tuesday with so little advance notice prevented many citizens from attending.</p> <p>The maps that have been released remain ENTIRELY UNSATISFACTORY, continuing to reflect the hyper-partisanship that voters have demonstrated they do not support (e.g., by electing Gov Cooper, AG Stein and Judge Morgan when national offices went Republican).</p> <p>I fully expect these sham bills to be passed by the NCGA on Thursday, as they have shown that the wishes of voters are irrelevant to them.</p> <p>I know these comments are part of a court record, so JUDGES, PLEASE SAY NO THESE MAPS! There is no separating race and party in NC, these maps and 28 of the legislators currently seated are illegal.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>Patricia Rieser, RN, FNP (retired)</p>
3762		Aug 22 2017 9:45PM	Mr. Perry Woods	<p>The City of Raleigh utilizes staff to draw districts in a non-partisan fashion utilizing only population. They are compact and include communities of interest that are easily identifiable. 1 district is SE Raleigh, One SW, One NW, One N, and one NE. That combined with our non-partisan jungle primary has lead to governance of cooperation seeking the middle to find solutions, not governance by sabotage seeking the edges and issues rather than solutions. These district in now way achieve balance that will result in true competition, and gives the middle a chance. I urge to consider our people over power, and come up with fair and balanced districts that consider nothing but population, no voter history, no demographics, no model scores. Just</p>
3763		Aug 22 2017 9:49PM	Thad Wengert	INDEPENDENT VOTER
3764		Aug 22 2017 9:51PM	Heidi Galloway	<p>Ladies and gentlemen, it is time to allow a non-partisan third party to redraw districts. Gerrymandering is not a political advantage, it is cheating and should not be condoned by any member of either party. We are better than this.</p>
3765		Aug 22 2017 9:56PM	Thad Wengert	<p>INDEPENDENT VOTER. I attended the Hearing this afternoon in Charlotte. It was unfortunate that the Committee did not provide data about the proposed districts. A printed map is insufficient information for the voters to give you complete feedback. While the GA has the power to redistrict as it chooses, I urge you to look for restraint and fairness for two reasons: 1) for North Carolina itself. I am not proud to have the label of surgically precise racist put on my state and I will vote accordingly. 2) for the Republican Party. The recipe for ruining a good sports team is to schedule a slate of weak opponents. The short term wins are fun. But when the important games come, the team is not ready. In the same way, weakening the opposition will give only a short advantage, poor policy, and an eventual loss. I'm an independent voter - compete for my vote with good ideas rather than hiding behind manufactured - but fleeting - advantage.</p>

3766		Aug 22 2017 9:58PM	Mr. Mark Harris	I completely support non-partisan redistricting. Gerrymandering is arguably the greatest contributor to the polarization crisis that currently grips our state and our nation. Until we get competitive districts, we the voters are the victims of extreme candidates, extreme ideology, and an ineffective, unpopular, and divided government. If the General Assembly won't fix this, hopefully the federal courts will.
3767		Aug 22 2017 9:59PM	Dr. Karen Daniels	<p>I attending the hearings today (Aug 22) in Raleigh, but had to leave before my name was called. I later found out that this was at 8pm. Below, I attach the statement I would have made had time allowed.</p> <p>=====</p> <p>My name is Karen Daniels, and I am a 15 year resident of Carrboro, NC who works here in Raleigh. I have looked over the maps provided during the few days, and have some serious concerns.</p> <p>These new maps were drawn by the Republican Party, rather than a non-partisan group, effectively tilting legislative power in favor of some groups over others. Republican lawmakers are on record as saying that they would use prior election outcomes as a way to draw districts which favor their candidates. How is that equal representation for all citizens of the state?</p> <p>The reason we are here is that the courts have directed the Legislature to ensure that the new districts give black voters fair representation. Where is the data for these new districts, showing that this is the case?</p> <p>The North Carolina Constitution calls for the government to serve “the good of the whole.” Instead, I see a Legislature drawing maps which best serve the present Legislature.</p> <p>And North Carolinians agree: 80% of us say that the Legislature should not be able to drawn its own districts.</p> <p>Voters should be choosing their elected officials. Instead, we have</p>
3768		Aug 22 2017 10:04PM	Ms. Kate Nangle	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I am disheartened by our state's continued lack of concern regarding blatant gerrymandering. I spent the first 18 years of my life in this state and am apauled to see the exact same issues present at the age of 30. While I am. It surprises me little that after decades of doing little to resolve the issue it continues with utter disregard for our justice system. You can do better, you have been told numerous times to do better, and have certainly had plenty if time to do it. We are all paying you to do a job you've refused to do for decades. Please consider starting to do it correctly in the next decade.</p>
3769		Aug 22 2017 10:07PM	Mr. Darrin Vicsik	<p>The re-drawn Districts still seem to fail the basic principles of fair representation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contiguity 2. Consistency with natural and political boundaries (county lines, for example) 3. Compactness (low perimeter to area ratio or a similar measure) <p>As an example, what is up with Senate District 18?!? It appears to have a tumor jutting South.</p> <p>I hope this re-do is also rejected by the Supreme Court and that the Legislative Body's map making privilege is revoked.</p> <p>Major (Retired) Darrin M Vicsik U.S. Army Cary, NC</p>
3770		Aug 22 2017 10:16PM	Mrs. Marnie Ross	I am in no way in favor of the maps that were redrawn. I am completely disgusted with the GOP, and the way they are acting only in favor to themselves, and in no way are representing the state as a whole. I urge a non partisan 3rd party redraw the maps to be fair and end the gerrymandering.
3771		Aug 22 2017 10:18PM	Dr. Joseph Woolley	It seems to me that the crux of this matter lies in the idea of the legitimacy of the NCGA in the eyes of the populace across the state of North Carolina. It is not restricted only to those districts identified by the court as having been subjected to racial gerrymandering, but the whole process of setting boundaries to legislative districts. If the citizens of NC do not believe the boundaries are drawn fairly, then the NCGA (and to a certain extent the courts reviewing those boundaries) can not, and will not, be accepted as legitimate legislators or arbiters of the laws of the state. This seems to be the current state of affairs, and the newly redrawn districts do little or nothing to address this sense of fairness, and therefore legitimacy, of the elected representatives. We MUST have a legislature that we can agree on as legitimate representatives of the populace.

3772		Aug 22 2017 10:32PM	Mrs. Amy Hambright	<p>I am disheartened but not surprised to see that the legislature is once again treating their constitutional duty like a partisan game. As the analysis of Indivisible Flip NC has found, the new maps are even more gerrymandered than the old maps.</p> <p>WE DEMAND FAIR MAPS!</p> <p>Fair redistricting should follow these basic principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Race is Key: Map drawers must ensure that it is possible for black voters to elect their candidates of choice, as required by the Voting Rights Act.•“One person, one vote:” Districts must be very equal in population and obey other laws.•Geographic Compactness: Map drawers must create compact districts, without odd tentacles. Districts must not skip over areas or join two areas at just one point.•Count Incarcerated Persons as residents of their pre-incarceration home or family residence for purposes of redistricting.•No Favoritism: Map drawers must not use the addresses of current lawmakers, or the party affiliation or voting history of voters, or other data to help a party or politician.•Respect Communities of Interest: Map drawers must avoid dividing communities with similar cultural, ethnic and economic interests; a local government district; etc.•Respect County Boundaries: Maps should make every effort to keep counties whole.•Evaluate Fairness: Before it is approved, a map must be evaluated for overall racial bias and partisan competitiveness, using tools recognized by courts to measure fairness.
3773		Aug 22 2017 10:36PM	Mr. Bob Hall	<p>Please take this opportunity seriously and remember your duty to</p> <p>The new maps are pretty, but it’s clear your computer expert has designed them with the same overall goal of protecting the incumbent party. You’re drawing district lines to pick and choose your voters, which is the opposite of what we want in a representative democracy. You didn’t give the public the maps or data until very late – which is very disrespectful – and you didn’t give us the registration data by race. You voted to ignore the race of voters in drawing new maps, as though that would protect you from being accused of drawing racially biased districts, but it’s clear that practice continues. You have, for example, packed black voters into House District 57 and Senate Districts 21 and 28 in order to protect incumbent Republican legislators.</p> <p>Because of your fetish for protecting Elephants, you voted to use partisan election outcomes to draw the new maps – and as a result, many districts are rigged to make them less competitive than they are now.</p> <p>In a few cases, your eagerness for partisan advantage may have violated the state constitution’s ban against redistricting in mid-decade. In Wake and Mecklenburg counties, for example, you’ve changed House Districts 36, 40 and 105 to increase the Republican advantage in elections, even though these districts don’t need to be redrawn at all. That’s illegal redistricting in mid-decade.</p> <p>Bottom line: the new maps are partisan gerrymandering in the extreme. Here are two way to see this.</p> <p>First, over 90% of the districts are not competitive, based on data you furnished. Your data included 5 statewide elections where the candidate won by 2 percentage points or less – the Tillis v Hagan, Cooper v McCrory, etc. – 5 very competitive statewide elections in your “Stat Pack,” each decided by 2 percentage points or less. BUT in nearly all the new districts you’ve drawn, the candidates in these elections win by more than 10 percentage points. There are only 15 of</p>

3774		Aug 22 2017 10:37PM	Diana Young-Paiva	<p>Thank you for providing an opportunity to comment about this very important issue. I wish that I had been able to attend the public hearing and speak in person, but I was not able to attend based on the short notice. I was however able to listen to the audio stream of the Raleigh hearing, and it was very inspiring to listen to the sincere and heartfelt comments of my fellow citizens. Thanks for making that audio stream available.</p> <p>My comments actually pertain more to the process that was followed for drawing the boundaries rather than the proposed maps themselves. Because the data was not provided to the public until Monday, there hasn't been enough time for me to do any kind of thoughtful analysis. From what I can see initially, it appears that some improvements have been made in terms of compactness, but that work remains to be done before the boundaries can be considered sufficient to meet the legal standards set for fair districts.</p> <p>I am disappointed that the republican members of the redistricting committee hired the same outside consultant with national Republican party ties that created the current maps that have been ruled illegal, to prepare the new maps. I am disappointed that the process hasn't been more transparent. I disagree with the presumption that in our state, voter party affiliation but not race can be used to draw fair boundaries that protect the voting rights of black voters.</p> <p>As I understand it, one of the criteria used for drawing the new boundaries was established to protect the districts of the current elected officials. That is wrong. The opportunity for people to fairly elect the people of their choice should be protected, not the position of those currently in office.</p>
3775		Aug 22 2017 10:43PM	Amy Hanson	<p>The new maps for the house and senate are full-on political gerrymandering. It is shameful that politicians are proud of using their power to rig the system in their favor. It harms all Americans by diluting votes and creating candidates that hold more and more extreme positions, which then leads to gridlock and politicians only working to keep themselves in power, when they should be working to compromise and help average people. NON-PARTISAN REDISTRICTING NEEDS TO BECOME THE LAW IN NORTH CAROLINA.</p>
3776		Aug 22 2017 10:53PM	Mr. John Carella	<p>Redistricting should, at a minimum, serve to ensure a "republican form of government" in which people elect their leaders. For the sustained health of our democracy, the maps should also maximize the number of "open" districts while still protecting minorities. These maps are undermine representative government and would be terrible for both our political discourse and the accountability of our elected leaders.</p> <p>Please try again</p>
3777		Aug 22 2017 11:05PM	Jonathon Waldes	<p>I am very disappointed that the redrawn maps we're only recently made public. Also there is no public input being taken. As a proud NC citizen I want fair maps that allow our lovely communities to elect the best representatives for them. Put an end to this racially motivated gerrymandering because it is illegal, immoral and holds our state back from being one of the very best states in the United States of America.</p>
3778		Aug 22 2017 11:15PM	Ms. Margaret Peeples	<p>I want districts to be redrawn so that every citizen is encouraged to participate in elections believing that their representatives want fair elections that result in fair representation. Without fair representation our government becomes more separated from the people, less representative, less reflective of the views of the people.</p>
3779		Aug 22 2017 11:17PM	Ayla Ficken	<p>I think the process should be one where the principles are clearly articulated and agreed to by a bipartisan group. I have not heard of any principles that are being used so how can we judge if the resulting maps meet the guidelines?</p> <p>I think it is ridiculous to put out maps over a weekend and ask people to comment on them on Tuesday. Clearly, input is not welcome. I want my democracy back!</p>
3780		Aug 22 2017 11:22PM	Mr. Charlie Schuder	<p>You people are real jackasses. I can't wait until you racist idiots get dragged out of office after mid-terms...I'm going to laugh my ass off when you get squashed by the Dems, despite your pathetic attempts to cling to power.</p> <p>We got rid of McCrannyPants and now you dinshits are next</p>
3781		Aug 22 2017 11:40PM	Ms. Shirley Butterworth	<p>Please have an INDEPENDENT commission analyze and redraw the maps for both House and Senate. A fair representation of the people in our state is what is needed so that ALL constituents' voices are heard.</p>

3782		Aug 22 2017 11:48PM	Jenny Kоторa-Lynch	<p>I attended the redistricting hearing held 8/22 at the Legislative Office building in Raleigh. I am appalled at the cavalier manner in which this hearing was conducted. The hearing was scheduled with little time for attendees to review the new maps. Meeting places were scheduled with little regard for the numbers who would be interested, with the result that those in overflow rooms missed much of the speakers' words. The process of live streaming was managed poorly: even in Raleigh, where you would expect the GA to have access to the latest technology, the streaming was slow, sound was terrible, and we lost the feed many times. If the GA wanted to set up a process to ensure little public response and great frustration, it could not have been done better. I believe you showed disdain for the public and for the process.</p> <p>As for the maps, this round looks little better than the previous maps. You have still used political data and voter registrations in order to draw districts that protect the Republican super-majority. The rehiring of Thomas Hofeller is a slap in the face to all who want to see a fair process. There was total secrecy in the drawing, with open embrace of partisan advantage.</p> <p>In my part of Wake county (Apex), you have obviously set out to protect Nelson Dollar and Tamara Barringer, drawing Dollar's challenger out of NC36 and moving Barringer's district into more rural areas that vote more Republican. In defiance of "one person, one vote," you have put too many people in each Wake county district, so that we are under-represented while the more rural areas of the state get more representation.</p> <p>This past year, a bipartisan panel of former judges showed how you can draw fair lines by ignoring past voting patterns and working along county lines while keeping population distribution within Voting Rights Act parameters. I am in support of the new maps. They are fair and legal</p>
3783		Aug 23 2017 12:08AM	Mr. Dallas Woodhouse	I am in support of the new maps. They are fair and legal
3784		Aug 23 2017 12:30AM	Dr. Jon Arvik	The rule should be a representative for any elected position may only receive votes from voters who are registered in the district for which they are running. Also, only registered voters may vote, and all voters must provide a bonafide government-issued picture identification card.
3785		Aug 23 2017 12:40AM	Stephen Clark	I support a non-partisan redistricting process for the sake of democracy.
3786		Aug 23 2017 1:10AM	Sean Conrad	<p>It is despicable that people elected by districts deemed to be illegal are being allowed to draw up these new districts, and they are making them even worse. You are making them worse. You are committing treason by intentionally disenfranchising those you disagree with.</p> <p>These districts should be drawn by an impartial, independent third party using publicly available algorithms to ensure the fairest distribution of votes and that all voters are fairly represented.</p>
3787		Aug 23 2017 3:06AM	Lisa Jordy	Please understand that every citizen has a right to be represented and know their Vote counts. Gerry mandering is the Achilles heel of our democracv.
3788		Aug 23 2017 5:52AM	Mrs. Elaine Bagley	I feel very strongly about a process for non-partisan redistricting in NC. I want districts that are drawn that do not favor one party over another and that ignore voter registration and past voting history. The districts should be compact, and not wiggling in funny shapes over the map. They must also comply with the Voting Rights Act. Please stop putting the legislators in charge of redistricting, who will continue to draw maps to favor keeping themselves in power.
3789		Aug 23 2017 6:37AM	Mrs. Donna Charneskie	<p>The citizens of NC deserve and demand fairly drawn districts not gerrymandering for political purposes</p> <p>We are in the 21st century</p> <p>This is easy</p> <p>use an algorithm and a computer and set up districts based on population</p>
3790		Aug 23 2017 6:51AM	Dr. Susanna Paisley	<p>It is imperative that North Carolina rectifies the gerrymandered mess which unfairly under-represents Democrats. The shortest splitline method is easy and transparent. Do not fail to act!</p> <p>Thank you</p>
3791		Aug 23 2017 6:51AM	Mr. Christopher Scott II	<p>The proposed map divides my county in half and lumps me in with an entire coastal county that is not aligned with my county's local interests. With a much larger population than the portion of Columbus County that has been included, Pender County residents will hold Columbus County's future in their hands. The legislature has an opportunity to empower the citizens to make political decisions for those individuals living and working together in their communities. Please don't divide these very communities.</p>
3792		Aug 23 2017 7:06AM	Nancy Dilger	<p>As I review the latest Legislative Redistricting maps that are being considered for NC, I am saddened to see the partisan map drawing skills are still at work. Even without the supporting data being released to the public along with the maps (which is an insult in itself), one can see many districts that are contorted. Please, please rise above and do right by NC! As a good citizen, I hope more from my elected officials. I expect our fine state to govern fairly to all citizens. I find it increasingly hard to trust and support those I have voted for when you continue to embarrass and ignore the good people of NC. Please throw out the politics, redraw fair, sensible districts quickly so NC can move forward.</p>

3793		Aug 23 2017 7:28AM	Ms. Sarah Ford	I strongly support a less partisan redistricting process and outcome that more accurately reflects the purple state that North Carolina is today. No party - neither Republican nor Democratic - should use the redistricting process to achieve a stranglehold on power. Please - put good government ahead of partisan politics and draw new maps that are fair to all. Thank you!
3794		Aug 23 2017 7:36AM	Ms. Gail Munde	From the color maps, it is very difficult for me to tell if or to what degree any of the districts are skewed. Despite this, I suspect they were drawn by a bunch of people whose only goal was to retain and secure the advantage to Republicans. Why would you pay \$50,000 to the person who drew the illegal maps to draw new maps? Why not enlist a bipartisan group to develop new maps? I guess that might jeopardize the continued power grab. The courts will decide, as will the people in 2018.
3795		Aug 23 2017 7:51AM	Mr. Johnny Wunder	If my Representative or Senator votes for this or any other gerrymandered districts they will never again get my vote. End this charade and give us fair non-partisan districts that represent you constituents and not your Party preferably drawn by an open transparent mutually agreed computer algorithm that is based exclusively on population and geography.
3796		Aug 23 2017 7:58AM	Ms. Janice Little	Democracy depends upon equal representation. The districts as proposed do not accomplish that and therefore subvert democracy. Please adjust for fair representation. Thank you.
3797		Aug 23 2017 8:04AM	Christina Auch	<p>I am Rev. Christina Auch, a resident of Cleveland County, NC and a pastor in the NC Lutheran Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church In America.</p> <p>Please find a way to toss the old maps as well as these newly redrawn maps, and establish new district maps with neutrality and fairness. If the legislators cannot do this themselves because they cannot play well together, then acknowledge your limits and hand-off the responsibility for drawing maps to a completely independent, non-partisan commission.</p> <p>Surely, you have heard the age-old idoms, "haste makes waste" and "measure twice, cut once"; your goal is not a quick process but success in ending gerrymandering.</p> <p>Yes, an independent commission pushes against the time limit, but it provides the Court a significant showing of good faith. The potential expense must be weighed against the certain litigation costs that will continue to accumulate if this process is unfair or inadequate. If we had done this to begin with, how much healthier would our state be financially, emotionally, and spiritually?</p> <p>As a NC citizen, I am ALWAYS in favor of NC showing good faith in its dealings. In this case, I strongly urge that we place ourselves humbly at the mercy of the court, if necessary, and show such good faith in order to provide all NC voters the unfettered opportunity to exercise the right to cast their sacred vote.</p>
3798		Aug 23 2017 8:05AM	Mr. Gregory Fronius-Carney	Please update the drawing of districts to represent voting blocks instead of unconstitutional partisan lines.
3799		Aug 23 2017 8:07AM	Ms. Diane Robertson	<p>August 22, 2017 To: NCGA Redistricting Committee</p> <p>The 350 members of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro branch of the NAACP have a simple request: Make North Carolina a Democracy Again.</p> <p>We ask that the lawmakers of North Carolina’s legislature place the cornerstone of democracy -- equal representation and access to the ballot for all -- ahead of their impulse to hoard power. We believe this is a more than reasonable ask. Without that cornerstone, we do not have a democracy. We do not have a bipartisan government. We have extremism and marginalization. We have one-party rule. And unfortunately the redrawing of the state House and Senate districts so far looks to be a process that has little resemblance to democracy.</p> <p>Even if the maps were redrawn with fairness in mind, which does not appear to be the case, the process to make and review these maps, which were vigorously smacked down as racist by the courts, has been nakedly undemocratic. They’ve been redrawn in secret prior to receiving public comment, revealed with essentially no time for the public to evaluate them, no serious attempt was made to include input from anyone other than the Republican lawmakers. The voter data corresponding to the maps was not even released with the maps; instead it was released during the solar eclipse, one day before the public hearings. The hearings are being held during a workday and on the first day back to school for many parents.This is not what democracy looks like.</p> <p>The public hearings scheduled with limited notice appear to be little more than cover for plausible deniability against accusations of lacking transparency and participation. Barely any advance notice was given.</p>
3800		Aug 23 2017 8:12AM	Herbert Amey	<p>If you were listening to the thoughtful comments at yesterday's hearing, you know the maps you are offering are flawed. Since there is no time to start the process again, you should ask the court for more time and do it right, or ask the court to take over the map-drawing process. Please do what is right for North Carolina, not what is politically advantageous.</p>

3801		Aug 23 2017 8:17AM	Stefanie Schroeder	As a resident of NC, I am deeply concerned that our elected officials ensure a nonpartisan and fair election process. Please use subject matter expertise to drawn maps.
3802		Aug 23 2017 8:26AM	Ms. Etta Barksdale	Please scrap the proposed maps and create a non-partisan committee/commission to draw a new set of maps.
3803		Aug 23 2017 8:29AM	Mrs. Sarah Charles	I am appalled at the lengths members of the NCGA will go to make it as difficult as possible for the public to express their thoughts and concerns about the issue of gerrymandering, as well as other issues. Let's look at this together, shall we? First, the meeting was at 4pm in the afternoon, a time when most working people are doing just that - working. Secondly, on June 5, 2017, the US Supreme Court affirmed the lower court ruling that 28 of North Carolina's legislative districts were illegally gerrymandered, which diluted the voting impact of black voters. The ruling took place in June but here we are at the end of August, given notice of only a few days to review the maps, and attend a public meeting to express our views. This is evidence, in my opinion, the many in the NCGA are really not interested in what the citizens have to say unless it furthers their own agenda or supports their reelection. There is a pattern of dismissive behavior of the NCGA towards the citizens of NC, from whom they get their power. Finally, the same man who drew the 2011 NC maps found unconstitutional was hired to redraw our maps at our expense. That is a complete disgrace and unconscionable waste of tax payer money. As one who is partially footing the bill for all of these political shenanigans, I demand better maps, I demand transparency in the process, and I demand that I be represented by those who care about the people - again, from whom legislators get their power - and not simply furthering their own careers.
3804		Aug 23 2017 8:50AM	Mr. Benjamin Dawson	I object to the way the new maps have been drawn in order to heavily favor republican candidates. This is particularly unjust since the republican legislators in NC only have the power to draw these maps through gaining a majority, by means of illegally racially gerrymandered districts. The new maps need to be drawn again to fairly represent ALL voters in this state, not just republicans, especially since their majority has been ruled to be illegal.
3805		Aug 23 2017 9:00AM	Mr. Daniel Barry	Draw fair maps now <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am pleased with how the North Carolina General Assembly has drawn these maps as instructed by the US Court of Appeals. I believe these maps comply with the Voting Rights Act, as well as all existing and relevant court precedents. These maps follow the letter of the law as understood today. The proposed State Legislative Districts comply with “one person, one vote” with each district containing roughly equal population based on the 2010 census numbers. • Extensive work was done in a relatively short period of time to draw districts within NCGA and NC Constitutional requirements while still holding required Committee Meetings, Hearings, and providing for public input. The updated District maps meet requirements for: 1) each district being connected (continuity rule), 2) proposed legislative districts which are more compact than current districts, 3) the proposed districts following the Whole County rule under NC State Law. These Districts split fewer Precincts and frankly they look better. • I hope the courts will respect the Constitutional role that legislatures have in drawing district lines. The drawing of legislative districts is the responsibility of the elected branches of government. I respectfully request that the courts refrain from changing redistricting law and standards after the lines have been drawn, this is a purely Legislative function.
3806		Aug 23 2017 9:05AM	Chelsea Mellon	I am a Charlotte, NC constituent and I don't understand why the redistricting wasn't computer generated. The new maps are still clearly qerrymandered.
3807		Aug 23 2017 9:11AM	Ms. Ann Von Brock	I attended the hearing last night in Caldwell County. I realized my earlier submitted comment had to do with US Congressional Districts, not NC General Assembly districts, so here is my corrected follow-up. In general, my comments are the same. 1. Don't split up counties 2. Eliminate gerrymandering by any party We are witnessing the strategy of divide and conquer - splitting counties and regions apart, splitting local governments into district voting (Asheville and Buncombe County are two examples). It is a blatant attempt to keep people from developing a sense of community with one another and keeps us divided and fighting which then keeps immoral leaders in power. We will continue to fight such power grabs from the General Assembly. Voters should choose representatives, you shouldn't get to choose your voters. I believe the Courts should draw these districts - not politicians. And, by the way, the public hearings were a sham. Poor technology - the worst audio was from Raleigh, but it was all bad and not to be blamed on the Community Colleges. The structure made the meetings go on way too long. No time in advance to review and understand the maps. There was no need to be simultaneous and require all audiences to hear each site one at a time. Organizers should be ashamed - except I believe it was done on purpose.

3808		Aug 23 2017 9:23AM	Ms. Della Martin	<p>I support an independent commission to develop new redistricting maps.</p> <p>Why would you hire the same person to redraw the maps when he drew the illegal, gerrymandered districts in the first place? This does nothing to give me confidence that you are trying to draw fair districts.</p> <p>The hearings were held in five locations across the state, in tiny rooms with bad audio, with a notice of only three business days (five calendar days), and held during a time when most people find it extremely inconvenient. This does nothing to tell me that you are trying to draw fair districts.</p> <p>Please use an independent, non-partisan source to redraw the maps. Give me confidence that my state government is doing the right thing for me and all the citizens of North Carolina.</p>
3809		Aug 23 2017 9:24AM	Dr. Jeff Braden	<p>It is time for NC to join other states and move to nonpartisan redistricting. The new maps continue to practice of making elections noncompetitive, and elected representatives therefore unresponsive to the broad range of constituents.</p> <p>Stop gerrymandering now!</p> <p>Jeffery D. Braden</p>
3810		Aug 23 2017 9:25AM	Rachael Barker	<p>We need a nonpartisan, transparent process to ensure that fair, unbiased (particularly in the are of race-no more racial bias against NC black citizens) maps are produced by. They also need to be produced in a timely manner by individuals with appropriate expertise that allows for review. The current set of maps fails on all counts. Please do better</p>
3811		Aug 23 2017 9:31AM	Rita Lewis	<p>This is becoming a government for the powerful, by those who want to stay in power. It certainly doesn't look like a government of the people.</p> <p>Please. Hold public hearings, involve ALL parties. Take the time to do it right. We have a chance to take the high road and avoid gerrymandering of ANY kind. Look at all possibilities, including an open primary/top-two system. Anything to ensure fair representation for the entire citizenry. If we can be better to one another while we're on the face of this earth, let's do it.</p>
3812		Aug 23 2017 9:32AM	Mrs. Diane Jordan	<p>Redistricting should be done without out regard for partisan interests. The people of North Carolina deserve an unbiased election process that does not devalue their vote. Gerrymandering is distorting election results and should be outlawed whether based on race or party affiliations.</p>
3813		Aug 23 2017 9:33AM	Mrs. Rachel Lichte	<p>Representation is our right! And the committee has used their jobs to undermine this fundamental right. This is fundamentally undemocractic.</p> <p>How are we supposed to respect the outcomes when the process of developing them is undemocratic, unjust, and lacks interest in true representation? The use of election data was sneaky - and given the Republicans (those leading the process) come out ahead, it's hard not to think that the intention was to secure the Republican lead. Given the process involved the same consultants who led NC to previously gerrymandered maps that were not in our best interest, it's hard to believe that this process or this outcome was designed to be in the best interest of the voting population. Given the maps were released only 3 and 4 days before and the public comment period was only announced 4 days before a weekday afternoon public comment session, it's hard to believe you actually wanted the public to see the results of your plan.</p> <p>Reject these maps. Put a fair, non-partisan process in place. Make our government representative. This should be the goal of new maps.</p>
3814		Aug 23 2017 9:37AM	David Foland	<p>Please discontinue unfair gerrymandering in the state, representatives should not be able to choose their own bespoke voting bases. Voting is an American institution and this pervsion of it to such unscrupulous ends is sickening.</p>

3815		Aug 23 2017 9:45AM	Ms. Abigaile Pittman	While I appreciate the opportunity to attend this meeting, I am appalled at the lengths members of the NCGA will go to make it as difficult as possible for the public to express their thoughts and concerns about the issue of gerrymandering, as well as other issues. Let's look at this together, shall we? First, the meeting was at 4pm in the afternoon, a time when most working people are doing just that - working. Secondly, on June 5, 2017, the US Supreme Court affirmed the lower court ruling that 28 of North Carolina's legislative districts were illegally gerrymandered, which diluted the voting impact of black voters. The ruling took place in June but here we are at the end of August, given notice of only a few days to review the maps, and attend a public meeting to express our views. This is evidence, in my opinion, the many in the NCGA are really not interested in what the citizens have to say unless it furthers their own agenda or supports their reelection. There is a pattern of dismissive behavior of the NCGA towards the citizens of NC, from whom they get their power. Finally, the same man who drew the 2011 NC maps found unconstitutional was hired to redraw our maps at our expense. That is a complete disgrace and unconscionable waste of tax payer money. As one who is partially footing the bill for all of these political shenanigans, I demand better maps, I demand transparency in the process, and I demand that I be represented by those who care about the people - again, from whom legislators get their power - and not simply furthering their own careers.
3816		Aug 23 2017 9:45AM	Ms. Catherine Meerbergen	This legislature, elected by gerrymandered maps in the first place, continues to exercise white supremacy by ignoring the ruling of the courts and the details of the Voter Rights Act. You have hired the same consultant and are consulting election results to determine districts. What is more, you are not allowing everyone accesses to the new proposed maps before the time you will discuss them. Fair maps cannot be drawn up by politicians whose jobs depend on them. I am strongly requesting an independent committee and an open process!
3817		Aug 23 2017 9:53AM	Ms. Susan Sunflower	<p>I understand the details of the 'new' redistricting plan were released this last week ... and today is last/only day for comments? What a mean joke to play on us citizens! We do notice such stuff.</p> <p>I was unable to access the bill with this, your on-line access. Is that deliberate on your part?</p> <p>None the less, here's some of what I think:</p> <p>Re the small note on your so-called access form: Feb 15, 2016 ... The 1st Congressional District and all districts affected by the at this moment as this will cost our state millions of dollars to redo ballots &....</p> <p>Ok, charge the millions to re-do to those who made the mess. Also charge them for wasting our time/money that first time.</p> <p>We want FAIR TO ALL voting districts. We are tired of hate, greed, anger, etc. That, actually is NOT the American Dream nor Great America, inspire of plagiarism by unethical people.</p> <p>Kindly get on with governing for all of us. NAACP, ACLU, other citizen groups have provided great examples. Try reading them.</p> <p>Anarivl. dispairinalv. Susan</p>
3818		Aug 23 2017 9:57AM	Ms. Abigaile Pittman	Regarding the redistricting map itself, how can I or the average citizen possibly evaluate a map at that scale, with no road references, etc. What would have been helpful would have been before and after maps available for each community at meaningful scale, a link to the legal directive/ instructions provided for required revisions, some information regarding the basis of the revisions that were made, and then some information on how the data for districts has changed with the proposed revisions. As you have presented the redistricting maps, how can you possibly say that you fairly got meaningful in put from the public? The way you are proceeding with the public input portion of this process is very suspect.
3819		Aug 23 2017 9:59AM	Mrs. Linda Campbell	The drawing of districts should be done by a an independent bipartisan commission. Districts should be competitive, not heavily skewed in the direction of one party. Enough of this mess. We are a democracy. We need to act like it.
3820		Aug 23 2017 9:59AM	Mr. wilbur castellow	Looking at the proposed map,I see that gerrymandering is alive and well.Why can't you do the right thing and appoint an independent and nonpartisan commission to draw up the redistricting map?
3821		Aug 23 2017 9:59AM	Mrs. Sharon Withrow	<p>As an unaffiliated voter and lifelong resident of North Carolina, I am extremely disappointed in the ultra-partisan nature of the new district maps. It's deeply saddening that NC Republicans see this as a game in which their only goal is to win rather than a sacred trust to fairly and honestly represent the people of our great state. They do not seem to care about the long-term damage partisan redistricting has on civic health. If people know their votes won't count, why vote at all?</p> <p>NC Republicans are acting like banana republic dictators rather than public servants. It's disheartening, and they should be ashamed of themselves for their selfish and unpatriotic behavior.</p>

3822		Aug 23 2017 10:07AM	Ms. Emily Keel	Why not stand for non partisan districts so that the citizens actually may elect their preference representing the population as it changes? Be bold and take a stance that would be fair to everyone and foster democracy!
3823		Aug 23 2017 10:07AM	Ms. Anita Hill	Voting laws must represent the rights of all citizens and not deny anyone the ability to cast their vote.
3824		Aug 23 2017 10:14AM	Mr. Raymond Johns	I oppose any redistricting plan that divides Buncombe County into separate districts as shown in both the House and Senate Versions of proposals. Buncombe County in a "whole" is unique an unlike adjacent counties and cities. From our water supply issues to our diverse and vibrant community we should be treated as a single entity in one district and served by a single representative that understands us as a community. To break up the county or city using political demography does not serve the community but only the individual. We are a community bound and cherished by our differences.
3825		Aug 23 2017 10:20AM	Mr. bob leker	Based on actions of the NCGA and the Redistricting Committee, I have concluded that both the redistricting maps and the process followed in the court ordered effort have made a mockery of public input and the actual outputs are nothing more than a sham of an effort to make the districts reflect true votes. Public input was deliberately prevented both by the NCGA delaying any effort required by court orders for about a year, then hastily releasing maps and data two days before hearings and three days before voting. Obviously, the NCGA never intended to consider any public input because they haven't allowed reasonable access or time for public input. As to the maps, they are nothing more than a calculated attempt to maintain the same failed districting alignment used to maintain the status quo and limit true voting impacts. As is clear, redistricting needs to be taken away from partisan groups (the GA) and completed by non-partisan or bipartisan groups or organizations. The extreme gerrymandering in NC must stop now!!!
3826		Aug 23 2017 10:21AM	Deepa Bhatt-Mackin	I do not approve of this new redistricting map. I find that it maintains the race-based principles of the first one, which was struck down as illegal in Court. This is a very poor attempt at correcting the gerrymandering found on the first map, and continues to minimize the impact of the votes of entire groups of people. This must not be approved
3827		Aug 23 2017 10:24AM	Mr. Ed Hutchins	These districts continue the gerrymandering of our state elections. They are not a true representation of the state's voting overall or our voting population across the state. We need a non-partisan approach. These new maps are not that. That you introduce maps and plan to vote in less than one week only confirms that you do not believe they would hold up to scrutiny. And the one opportunity you allowed for public input was overwhelming negative. These maps could have been drawn months ago with true non-partisan groups. You are rigging the system. Shameful that you resort to these tactics to try to hold on to your power
3828		Aug 23 2017 10:25AM	Mr. Chris Kaman	The most recently drawn maps do not attempt to represent the diversity of our voters in NC. It is geared only to further the interests of the party in power. I don't care if the Democrats did such in the past. Can we not begin to consider what is good for the people of North Carolina? And "No" that does not equate to either party having a veto proof majority in districts drawn to accomplish such majorities. Such is a travesty of democracy
3829		Aug 23 2017 10:26AM	Mr. Larry Reed	The majority party in the general assembly only released the new NC district maps Sunday and held a limited public meeting the following Tuesday. That's obviously intended to limit analysis and debate by the public. Given this limited information, I sincerely question the gerrymandered appearance of the following House districts: 114, 117,66, 96,89,107,103, 81, 75, 57,58, 63,64,77,39,44,45,46,21,10,18 and 1
3830		Aug 23 2017 10:26AM	Dr. Jennifer Stanton	Use zip code boundaries.
3831		Aug 23 2017 10:35AM	Janice Blunt	Do the RIGHT thing, NOT the partisan thing. Gerrymandering is wrong; every vote should count equally. It is role of our Legislature to LEAD BY EXAMPLE, as well as BY LAW. Please use a nonpartisan process to draw district boundaries, not a process that favors one party over another, or negates the votes of any group. The public is watching.
3832		Aug 23 2017 10:37AM	Mr. Phillip Morrison	I was raised, and my entire family still live, in Forsyth, Ashe and Wilkes counties. These are not maps of North Carolina. They are guides to how to remove one-person, one-vote from our republic. I'm sure it must be exciting, unless you are, for instance, the Republican chairman from Pamlico County we all heard yesterday, whose citizens are among the chaff of your manipulated vote harvest. How often has someone near you said with an cute grin,"I can't believe this is legal"? That's the sign of a coward, not a leader. Let's win because he actually win. I don't want to be from the Lance Armstrong state.
3833		Aug 23 2017 10:39AM	Mr. Craig White	I have lived in North Carolina for many decades, so I remember when the Republicans wanted an independent redistricting commission, but the Democrats in the General Assembly refused it, just like the Democrats now want an independent redistricting commission, but the Republicans in the General Assembly are refusing it. Frankly this kind of thing is why I'm an independent. The only logical, rational solution to redistricting is an independent commission. Please put the long term good of North Carolina ahead of the immediate interests of your different political parties. Thank you.

3834		Aug 23 2017 10:47AM	Hannah Donahue	<p>As stated and analyzed by Elizabeth Jones Sbrocco: The foundation of a representative democracy is that elected officials fairly and accurately represent the will of the people. In North Carolina, gerrymandering has perverted this basic tenant, rendering our state a failed democracy. Last year, the courts ruled that our state legislative boundaries were unconstitutional because they unfairly packed too many minority voters into too few legislative districts. Since this ruling, state legislators have continued to undermine the will of the people for over a year. They have finally released new maps and part of the data required to evaluate them, but have done so only 24 hours before the only public hearings that are currently planned before they will take a vote. As a Ph.D. Biologist with expertise in geographic information systems (GIS), statistics, and spatial analyses, and as a native North Carolinian, I take issue with these maps for the following reasons:</p> <p>1) These maps were drawn by the very politicians who were unconstitutionally elected and who have undermined the will of the people in our state for the last five years. This is the equivalent of letting a criminal choose his own punishment. They cannot be trusted to do the right thing.</p> <p>2) In North Carolina, election results are a proxy for race since a) less than 3% of black active voters are registered as Republicans and b) with few exceptions, Republicans do not win elections in black-majority districts. Thus, the use of election results in drawing new maps leads to undermining the will of black voters, a practice that is unconstitutional.</p> <p>3) Map-makers have skillfully used GIS-based technology to go from one unconstitutional extreme to another. On one end, districts are gerrymandered by packing too many black voters into too few</p>
3835		Aug 23 2017 10:52AM	Ms. Rose MacDonald	<p>Legislators elected from illegal districts have created new maps to protect themselves. N.C. lawmakers have used unlawful gerrymandering to win elections in 2012, 2014 and 2016; they keep passing laws in an illegal General Assembly that can ignore voters. The new maps continue extreme partisan gerrymandering. About 90% of the districts clearly favor one party, creating safe seats, with little or no partisan competition. General Assembly leaders have spent \$4.8 million of taxpayers’ money to defend their maps in court, but they keep losing. Stop cheating, stop wasting our money.</p> <p>Racial gerrymandering promotes racial divisions to give white elites political power. In 2011, N.C. Republicans purposefully packed black voters into a small number of districts to undermine the new fusion coalition that elected Barack Obama. GOP lawmakers combined racial gerrymandering with an anti-voter “Monster Law” that targeted African Americans, as the court said, “with almost surgical precision.” Racial gerrymandering is a tool of white supremacy. It produces rigged elections that hurt all North Carolinians except the wealthy, white, mostly male power brokers.</p>
3836		Aug 23 2017 10:54AM	Ms. Karin Kemp	<p>Really? I hope the courts send this right back to you to be redone! The shame you have brought to the.citizens of North Carolina by your gerrymandering in the past still continues with these new maps.</p>
3837		Aug 23 2017 10:54AM	Ms. Paula Wolf	<p>The recent maps drawn by the GOP do nothing to answer the court ruling. Indeed, these maps are another stalling scheme that will allow NC voters to have yet another election under unconstitutional maps. They keep the GOP supermajorities in both Chambers. The maps are hyper-incumbent protection vehicles. Legislators continue to pick their voters instead of voters choosing their elected officials. Most of the seats drawn are not competitive, they double-bunk members of the same party and put Democrats in Republican-leaning districts.</p> <p>The original maps should never have received pre-clearance from the Obama DOJ in the first place. We have seen appeal after appeal to courts that have been too patient and accommodating to the outlandish power grabs by the NC GOP.</p> <p>The same man who lead the "Red Map" plan that resulted in unconstitutional maps in NC and nationwide was hired again to draw these maps.</p> <p>I recommend that the court reject these maps and draw fair maps for NC with all deliberate speed.</p>

3838		Aug 23 2017 11:04AM	Phyllis Demko	<p>“We are on to you!” We citizens understand how you got to your position of power and how you stay there. And the new maps show you are not willing to learn.</p> <p>The last time the Supreme Court looked at partisan gerrymandering, it told the plaintiffs they had not offered a workable standard to distinguish between permissible political line-drawing and unconstitutional partisan gerrymandering. On October 3, oral argument will begin for a case from Wisconsin, Gill v. Whitford. This case presents such a “workable standard” and more refinements are in development.</p> <p>Some of the brightest minds in the country are doing substantive research to explain why our democracy is not working like it should. For example, some really smart mathematicians at Tufts University, “The Metric Geometry and Gerrymandering Group” have just finished a major conference which they will duplicate through workshops around the country. One of these workshops, called “Geometry of Redistricting” will be at Duke, and many of your critics will be banging the doors down to be admitted. Eventually we will have the tools needed for the courts to determine when partisan gerrymandering has gotten totally out of hand and needs to stop.</p>
3839		Aug 23 2017 11:06AM	Mr. Alex Panek	<p>This needs to be an open and non-partisan process, or at least a bi-partisan compromise, plain and simple. Using the same firm/individual that drew the unconstitutional maps is not acceptable.</p> <p>Pointing to the past gerrymandering from Democratic-led General Assemblies is not productive; two wrongs do not make a right. We need a legislative map that represents our state in a fair way so that the GOP primaries don't dictate the legislative agenda for a state where a majority of people do not share those views.</p> <p>Do what's right, let the people decide who leads us. Let's have fair maps and do this in a democratic way.</p>
3840		Aug 23 2017 11:09AM	Beth Jezek	<p>If you are not afraid of what the electorate thinks about what you're doing in the legislature, you should have no problem drawing districts so that they represent all voters, not just Republicans. Please consider using the Iowa model for drawing district lines.</p>
3841		Aug 23 2017 11:14AM	Rebecca Perry	<p>End gerrymandering!</p> <p>A new poll shows that four out of five North Carolina voters (80%) say it’s not fair for politicians to draw their own districts. That includes 85% of Democrats, 74% of Republicans, 80% of independents – as well as 70% of Trump supporters and 80% of African Americans.</p> <p>The redistricting process must be open, avoid racial or partisan gerrymandering, and allow voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around.</p> <p>We should research the practices used in other states and adopt principles that encourage deep community involvement. Fair redistricting should follow these basic principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Race is Key: Map drawers must ensure that it is possible for black voters to elect their candidates of choice, as required by the Voting Rights Act. • “One person, one vote:” Districts must be very equal in population and obey other laws. • Geographic Compactness: Map drawers must create compact districts, without odd tentacles. Districts must not skip over areas or join two areas at just one point. • Count Incarcerated Persons as residents of their pre-incarceration home or family residence for purposes of redistricting. • No Favoritism: Map drawers must not use the addresses of current lawmakers, or the party affiliation or voting history of voters, or other data to help a party or politician. • Respect Communities of Interest: Map drawers must avoid dividing a communities with similar cultural, ethnic and economic interests; a local government district; etc. • Respect County Boundaries: Maps should make every effort to keep counties whole. • Evaluate Fairness: Before it is approved, a map must be evaluated <p>Why can't computers who are completely non-partisan draw the maps? Party, race and economic status should be left out of the equation. Computers are the only ones I trust and the programming is out there - use it!</p>
3842		Aug 23 2017 11:22AM	Mrs. Mindu Kim	
3843		Aug 23 2017 11:27AM	Ms. Katherine Wulff	<p>We want and deserve fairly drawn district maps that are a true reflection of the voters of North Carolina. We are tired of being the most gerrymandered state in the union and our legislators should be ashamed of themselves.</p>
3844		Aug 23 2017 11:39AM	Dr. Simin Hall	<p>The districts you have drawn is motivated by race rather than basic right of people. These maps let representatives choose voters rather than people elect the officials inline with their persuasions.</p> <p>We ask legislators to research the practices used in other states and adopt principles that encourage deep community involvement. What you are proposing does not follow fair redistricting basic principles.</p> <p>Districts must be very equal in population and obey other laws. Evaluate your maps based on fairness; before it is approved, a map must be evaluated for overall racial bias and partisan competitiveness, using tools recognized by courts to measure fairness.</p> <p>The maps presented do not follow any of these principles.</p>

3845		Aug 23 2017 11:44AM	Mr. Kevin Edwards	The Republican supermajorities have chosen to make this a politically-based redistricting, using primarily previous voting patterns to preserve their tremendous electoral advantages. In the last election, a bare majority of voters somehow managed to deliver over 70% of seats to the Republican party, an amazing feat that the recipients of these seats wish to make permanent. The fact that the same GOP operative who drew up the unconstitutional maps was chosen to draft these tells a lot, as does the way they were so quickly rushed out to avoid serious public comment. The public meeting last night in Greensboro was clearly chosen to further this downplaying of public participation, as over 2/3 of the citizens attending were forced into a completely different room where hearing and seeing what was going on was difficult. But this pattern of behavior seems to be typical of the North Carolina legislature now. Silencing opposition, conducting business as much in the dark as possible, and not even pretending to listen to the other side of the story on anything is what we've come to expect. It is scant wonder that much of the state considers itself to be completely unrepresented by its government in Raleigh.
3846		Aug 23 2017 11:52AM	Ms. Emily Baker	As a North Carolinian, I am very disappointed and angry with the legislative maps that have been newly proposed for the state House and Senate districts. This process has repeatedly been conducted in ways that are illegal, obscured from the public, entirely partisan, and at the expense of North Carolinian voters based on race and ethnicity. How can state senators fully and appropriately represent so many municipalities? The maps currently being offered were drawn behind closed doors and voters were not given sufficient time to review proposed maps before scheduled public hearings. I'm a proud resident of the state of North Carolina. I want and expect representatives to the General Assembly to deliver nonpartisan and contiguous districts through a transparent process. That means no longer using the same consultant who has unfairly and unconstitutionally drawn these maps in the past. A majority of the Joint House and Senate Redistricting Committee have at one time been on the record as supporting nonpartisan redistricting. These new maps continue the unacceptable practice of partisan gerrymandering (via taking prior voter registration and past election data into account), giving the majority party an unharnessed advantage while shielding those same elected officials from accountability. Voters must be given a valid choice at the ballot box and it must start now with the rejection of the current proposal. I'm sick of this treatment of North Carolina's voters and I expect better.
3847		Aug 23 2017 12:02PM	Dr. Kathi Beratan	I am strongly opposed to the proposed redistricting as shown on the newly released map. This partisan redistricting is fundamentally no different than the maps rejected as illegal by the courts. Districts drawn to protect incumbants would preserve the illegal disenfranchisement of minorities that allowed for the election of those incumbents in the first place. The GOP majority is NOT trying to obey the rule of law, and instead is playing games to retain illegally gained power. This map will be taken to court, and you will lose yet again. The disparity between the relative proportion of Democrats vs Republicans in the NCGA compared to number of votes cast for each party demonstrates the inappropriateness of the district maps, and the undemocratic nature of the process. Stop this outrageous disregard for Democracy and give us FAIR DISTRICTS! Rather than cheat, try to win us over through proposing good laws.
3848		Aug 23 2017 12:04PM	Ms. Kirtan Coan	In an era when divisiveness and intolerance are dominating our public discourse and attitudes, it seems downright unethical for leaders to continue to support their own seats of power rather than act in an equitable way that demonstrates the glory of a democracy. When those on top continually vote for those on top, it sets up an opening for eventual take over by those on bottom who become those on top and then vote themselves into greater and higher seats of power. When will this stop?! Global warming demonstrates that those bullies with the power of money don't give a hoot about correcting their behavioral privileges in order to even the playing field and preserve life. I beg our Republican and Democratic state leaders to find a way to draw districts that pertain solely to fairness to all voters.
3849		Aug 23 2017 12:07PM	Ms. Lauren Brennan	The new legislative redistricting does not fix the problems of gerrymandering and gives one party a significant and lasting advantage over another through line drawing when in reality the people should be deciding and not the parties. Please redraw and make the new legislative districts fair and equal.
3850		Aug 23 2017 12:18PM	Joan Brannon	NCGA response to court-ordered redistricting? This is surely a bad joke: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pay \$50,000 to the same guy who drew the 2011 maps that the court declared racially gerrymandered; • apply partisan gerrymandering this time around; • redraw many districts not under court order, making one-party control over the state even more entrenched in the new maps; • release the maps without supporting data at the 11th hour, limiting public access; • limit public comment. Done deal. Holy cow!! You just need to roll up democracy and stuff it in a bag, because this makes perfectly clear that free and fair elections are not a goal of the controlling powers in the NCGA. Shame on those of you complicit in this absurd political theater--these shenanigans are directly oppositional to your role as public servants and representatives of the

3851		Aug 23 2017 12:25PM	NANCY WESTFALL	Please insist on fair redistricting now. Racial gerrymandering is a tool of white supremacy, and is profoundly immoral. The eyes of the nation are on NC, and our redistricting process must be open and allow voters to pick their representatives, not the other way around.
3852		Aug 23 2017 12:25PM	Ms. Marlene Greer	I object to the criteria the committee is using to draw the district maps. No political data should be allowed. No past election results and no addresses of incumbents. Maps should not be drawn with the specific goal of protecting incumbents. The committee should be limited to clear criteria and what is required by federal law - population, contiguous, compactness, and effective vote for minorities. Some of the districts (3, 11, 21, 32, 33, 44, 47) in the proposed 2017 Senate district map appear very questionable. I do not want to see my tax dollars spent on defending yet another unjust district map. And I am tired of all the anger. The only way to stop the lawsuits and give the people of NC assurance of fair representation is to have redistricting done by an independent, non-partisan committee and not by legislators. Please end this practice of cheating to win elections. Then maybe we can all move forward in relative peace.
3853		Aug 23 2017 12:47PM	Mr. Roy Bentley	I am disappointed to find, yet again, the district maps drawn in a partial way. Please hand this responsibility off to a non-partisan commission who will act in the best interests of the citizens. Citizens ought to pick their representatives, not the other way around. Thank you.
3854		Aug 23 2017 12:54PM	Mr. Steve Humphrey	Please insist on fair redistricting now! Racial gerrymandering is a tool of white supremacy and is profoundly immoral. The eyes of the nation are on NC, and our redistricting process must be open and allow voters to pick their representatives, not the other way around. Failing to act properly on this issue will plunge our opinion of our "elected representatives" to an all-time low and will be reflected clearly at the ballot box.
3855		Aug 23 2017 1:02PM	Ms. Laurel Ferejohn	Please insist on fair redistricting now. Racial gerrymandering is a tool of white supremacy and profoundly immoral. The eyes of the nation are on NC. Our redistricting process must be open and allow voters to pick their representatives, not the other way around.
3856		Aug 23 2017 1:04PM	sandee washington	Our legislature should NOT draw out political district maps. A third, objective party, should do this. Our votes should count.
3857		Aug 23 2017 1:14PM	Mr. Randall Hendrick	I am an independent voter residing in Orange County. I urge the General Assembly to make respecting the principle of "one person one vote" its highest priority. Attempts to make some votes count more than others by the way districts are drawn should be avoided. I am deeply concerned that the current maps do not reflect this basic principle because of the way they have been provided without any supporting statistical context. Using the same consultant who drew unconstitutional maps is an added source of worry for citizens like me who are interested in preserving the integrity of the vote.
3858		Aug 23 2017 1:19PM	Patricia Young	I signed up to speak in Raleigh but had to leave. Here is what I would have said. It is hard in the limited time we were given to review the maps and have substantive comments about the districts. There is also limited information available to understand the logic behind the maps. But in looking at the western districts vs. the central and Eastern districts, it seems quite obvious that a key factor was to design districts to benefit incumbents. Incumbents, might I add, that were elected on illegal distracting practices. What data did I look at to draw this conclusion? Incumbents are living on the line or in niches too small too be obvious on the size maps you provided on districts east of I85. It is also obvious from the time frames defined in the process that you really are not interested in public comment and are doing this as a way to show fulfillment of that step in the process rather than truly meet the intent. It is my hope the court sees through this as a partisan power play designed to maintain incumbents rather than a fair process where every vote counts. I know you feel it is the Republicans turn since Democrats did this for years. And I think you think that the people who oppose this are disgruntled liberals. But that is not true. I am a conservative who believes in the constitution and the bill of rights. The over riding principle, one you seemed to easily dismiss, is that every vote should count equally. To the Republican majority... we cannot call ourselves the party of Lincoln and not live up to the ideals he set. We have become fully the party of Nixon, going beyond even his ambitions. Having spent a Saturday talking with Concord citizens, I want to share what I learned. I did not seek out the poor who you minimized in your earlier map. I talked with some of the most affluent citizens, some "old Concord money" living on Union Street. Not once did I have to explain what gerrymandering meant.... They were informed and knew about the court ordered Redistricting. Everyone 100% were against
3859		Aug 23 2017 1:30PM	Mrs. Sherry Shepard	As a resident of Columbus County I think that it is not a good decision to redistrict Columbus County. As a rural area it is difficult to find representation for the specific needs of our county. I have only been in the County and state for 4 years but I feel that it is home and the needs of this county needs to remain under one district and should not be divided into 2 districts. Columbus County residents already feel a distinct division amongst Whiteville and the rest of the county this division would continue to divide the county economically. Thanks

3860		Aug 23 2017 1:36PM	Mrs. Mary Lynn Kargman	<p>North Carolina committees have consistently manipulated the district maps to sway elections in favor of Republican candidates. They have done so by dispersing minority communities and voters that they predict will vote for democratic candidates across multiple districts, so as to lessen the impact of their vote. Not only does this create an unfair playing field for the two parties, but the process of intentionally drawing convoluted district lines — also known as gerrymandering — devalues an individual’s vote. The right to vote is the most sacred right in a representative democracy. When district lines are manipulated, each vote loses its value and more importantly, people lose their voice. North Carolina’s committees have undermined the spirit of democracy.</p> <p>Additionally, when people’s votes lose their value, individuals lose the incentive to vote in the first place. Participation rates in America are among the lowest in developed countries, and they are even lower in local elections. If maps remain gerrymandered and individuals continue to feel as though their vote is manipulated, participation numbers will only get lower.</p> <p>Under these conditions, can North Carolina even be considered a democracy? Please vote to redraw our districts. Thank you</p>
3861		Aug 23 2017 1:47PM	Ms. Abigaile Pi	By drawing maps that protect Republican incumbent legislators, Republicans have shown that they are more interested in playing partisan games than setting up a fair process for North Carolinians. Stop playing games and protect our electoral process!
3862		Aug 23 2017 1:54PM	Ms. Kate Thomas	I write to strongly advocate for an independent, nonpartisan commission for redistricting our NC voting maps. We have already suffered through illegal, racially biased gerrymandering, and the new maps are a very slight improvement that still give unfair advantages to GOP candidates in most districts. This partisan gerrymander does not allow our state's residents to have a democratic voice in our government, as our districts do not truly represent our citizens. Please do the right thing and reject these new maps and have an independent, nonpartisan commission redraw district boundaries in a way that will accurately reflect the political beliefs of North Carolinians and allow us to fairly participate in our democracy.
3863		Aug 23 2017 1:55PM	Ms. Christine Hale	<p>A Sham Redistricting Process Is Insulting.</p> <p>Why have legislative leaders hired the same consultant (Thomas Hofeller) who drew the current illegal maps? He is nationally known for rigging maps to help his Republican clients. Why have legislators declared they would not consider the race of voters, when, in fact, that approach ignores the directive of the courts to examine whether black voters have a fair chance to elect candidates of their choice in the new districts? Why have legislators declared they would consider past election outcomes and the ability of their party to win elections in the new districts when they admit they drew the old districts, now declared illegal, for partisan advantage? Why have legislators refused to reveal the new maps until just before this hearing? The answer appears to be that legislators are, again, not taking this process seriously and intend to dupe the public. We are your constituents, not your servants. Well over 60 percent of your constituents state that they want fair districts drawn in a non-partisan manner. Why do you obstruct the will of your constituents?</p> <p>Sincerely, Christine Hale</p>
3864		Aug 23 2017 1:56PM	Richard Broaddus	The mathematical procedures now available for taking residential data and precinct boundary information and creating voting districts with measurable population equality and compactness would be ideal. A non-partisan redistricting commission should be created to use tools like this. Voters choosing representation, not the other way around, please!
3865		Aug 23 2017 1:56PM	Ms. Mona Coutts	I urge you to adopt fair, nonpartisan standards for drawing the new voting districts. The ones you have drawn up do not use these standards. I, as a member of the voting public, deserve better. I want to see fairness on something as important as the creation of our congressional and legislative districts. Please stop the partisan political games on something this important
3866		Aug 23 2017 2:16PM	Ms. Cynthia Allen	We need non-partisan, fair districts please!!
3867		Aug 23 2017 2:22PM	Ms. Randee Gordon	Based on actions of the NCGA and the Redistricting Committee, I have concluded that both the redistricting maps and the process followed in the court ordered effort have made a mockery of public input and the actual outputs are nothing more than a sham of an effort to make the districts reflect true votes. Public input was deliberately prevented both by the NCGA delaying any effort required by court orders for close to a year and then hastily releasing maps and data two days before hearings and three days before voting. Obviously, the NCGA never intended to consider any public input because they haven't allowed reasonable access or time for public input. As to the maps, they are nothing more than a calculated attempt to maintain the same failed districting alignment used to maintain the status quo and limit true voting impacts. As is clear, redistricting needs to be taken away from partisan groups (the GA) and completed by non-partisan or bipartisan groups or organizations. The extreme gerrymandering in NC must stop now!!!

3868		Aug 23 2017 2:26PM	Mrs. Debra Raymond	I oppose the new districting from the Legislature! The Legislature chose to ignore public comment and draw more extremely gerrymandered districts. The Court should reject this new effort at gerrymadering and require a new, real drawing of the maps. Thank you!
3869		Aug 23 2017 2:32PM	Kristin Keliher	I strongly oppose political gerrymandering and feel the new districts should be redrawn by a third party bipartisan group. North Carolina should have Senators and Representatives that are selected by the people and represent the people of each district. Gerrymandering creates districts that represent the general assembly member. It is time to move past partisan politics and create fair districts across this state created by a third party or computer generated. Thank you.
3870		Aug 23 2017 2:41PM	Mr. Paul Brotherton	Legislators elected from illegal districts have created new maps to protect themselves. N.C. lawmakers have used unlawful gerrymandering to win elections in 2012, 2014 and 2016; they keep passing laws in an illegal General Assembly that can ignore voters. The new maps continue extreme partisan gerrymandering. About 90% of the districts clearly favor one party, creating safe seats, with little or no partisan competition. General Assembly leaders have spent \$4.8 million of taxpayers’ money to defend their maps in court, but they keep losing. Stop cheating, stop wasting our money!
3871		Aug 23 2017 2:55PM	Dr. Elizabeth Bates	Maybe have some districts that aren't so racist and terrible? Nonpartisan districting is IMPORTANT
3872		Aug 23 2017 3:05PM	Ms. Susan Breitzer	Although the maps I saw were not perfect, they are such an improvement over the status quo, that there is no excuse not to implement it. This state and its residents have suffered too long from the effects of gerrymandering to allow the status quo to continue.
3873		Aug 23 2017 3:22PM	Mr. SEVONE RHYNES	Ladies and gentlemen of the NC General Assembly: To accept gerrymandering is to accept the lie that it makes of the principles of democracy as espoused in this country. Further, it is to accept that the United States Constitution is indeed for the benefit of an exclusive segment of this nation, and that the others of us are only deserving of what that segment deems us worthy of. I do not accept that I am less a citizen of this nation because I am a Black man, nor do I accept that gender, economic status, sexual orientation, or religion are legitimate measures of who deserves to participate fully in the benefits granted said citizens. No one, especially no partisan individual or group, has the right to dilute the power of my vote nor your vote. And that is why I demand an end to the racist, elitist practice of gerrymander. Peace
3874		Aug 23 2017 3:41PM	Mr. Austin Quinn	Redistricting needs to be done by a non-partisan outside body to ensure fairness.
3875		Aug 23 2017 3:43PM	Janis Zaremba	North Carolina committees have consistently manipulated the district maps to sway elections in favor of Republican candidates. These districts have dispersed minority communities and voters that they predict will vote for democratic candidates across multiple districts, so as to lessen the impact of their vote. These districts create an unfair playing field for the two parties, but the process of intentionally drawing convoluted district lines — also known as gerrymandering — devalues an individual’s vote. The right to vote is the most sacred right in a representative democracy. When district lines are manipulated, each vote loses its value and more importantly, people lose their voice. When people’s votes lose their value, individuals lose the incentive to vote. Participation rates in America are among the lowest in developed countries, and they are even lower in local elections. If maps remain gerrymandered and individuals continue to feel as though their vote is manipulated, participation numbers will only get lower.

3876		Aug 23 2017 3:46PM	Ms. Rebecca Marks	I made the trip to Beaufort County from Atlantic Beach yesterday to watch Norm Sanderson pay more attention to his tablet than to any of the speakers and to eventually completely leave the room. Granted, it was extremely difficult to hear many of the speakers and since none of us had seen the maps in a timely fashion or had any data to go along with the lovely colors, we were less able to make substantive comments. What is clear is: the committee has no interest in drawing fair maps, listening to their constituents, or doing anything other than wasting taxpayer dollars. These maps are more of the same and do not address the problems created by gerrymandered districts. We need a non-partisan group to draw these maps. What this group has proposed is useless, will continue to suppress the voices of many citizens, does nothing to encourage competition and fair representation, and in no way gives political parties an equal opportunity to translate votes for their candidates into legislative seats.
3877		Aug 23 2017 3:59PM	Mr. Robert Barker	Would some responsible adult stop this gerrymandering attempt ? This is not rocket science - just draw equal adjacent areas and stop the fingers of each district intruding into other districts. The map drawer who created the original districts that were ruled unconstitutional has not learned how to be fair and equal. The balance of power will shift over the years, so do this redistricting effort without partisanship - hopefully the courts will step in and fix this. Unacceptable.
3878		Aug 23 2017 4:08PM	Max Matthews	<p>The citizens of NC must have fair redistricting now in a process that is open and that results in a solution that allows voters to pick their representatives, not the other way around.</p> <p>Make no mistake: Racial gerrymandering is a tool of white supremacy and profoundly immoral. The eyes of the nation are on the NCGA.</p>
3879		Aug 23 2017 4:09PM	Laurie McDowell	We do not operate under a democratic form of government with the current districts, and the new ones will be no better. 1/3-1/2 of North Carolina residents have no say in our government. A supermajority by any party prevents a government from operating as it is designed to. I believe that if North Carolina was an independent state, Jimmy Carter would be flying in to observe our elections. But we have no one to turn to to fix this.
3880		Aug 23 2017 4:11PM	Mr. Matt Case	While I understand it is in the *legal* right of law makers to draw voting districts along party lines, it is not *morally* right to do so and never has been. Only an independent body can have any hope of drawing lines that are fair for all, and forever. Please, please don't gut our democracy -- it is what our founding fathers fought for and veterans in all wars died for!
3881		Aug 23 2017 4:33PM	Karen Garafola	I join the majority of NC voters who want NC to return to a democracy where voting districts are fair, non-partisan, and not full of racial suppression. Voters deserve to choose their representatives, not the reverse. This General Assembly has made the bulk of its legislation to consolidate as much power as possible in the legislature to further the legislators' personal agendas at the expense of the voters. I strongly encourage the legislature to go back to the founding principles of this country and allow voters to have fair elections which reflect the will of the voters. Thank you.
3882		Aug 23 2017 4:36PM	Mr. WILLIAM OSBORNE	It is painfully obvious to the public that neither the Democrats nor the Republicans can act in the best interest of the common good. Apparently, the only method to provide equal protection will be to place the redistricting process in the hands of a nonpartisan commission with judicial oversight. Corruption for power requires that legislators be left out of the process.
3883		Aug 23 2017 4:47PM	Dr. Lloyd Chambless	<p>The legislative committee on redistricting has been very open about its undemocratic acts of drawing boundaries to give partisan advantage and to protect incumbents, though this particular openness is hard to applaud. We can classify your harm to N.C. into two major categories. First, the rights of all of us in N.C. to determine the organization of what should be our General Assembly have been denied. This is the immediate blow to democracy: the people cannot choose its representatives. Although Democrats have also limited democracy in the past by their own gerrymandering, with the new computer tools and databases available you Republicans have perfected the art. For example, the bias towards Democrats in the 2002 Congressional redistricting has been measured to have been 10%, whereas the 2012 redistricting bias towards Republicans was 36%. Not exactly an equivalence, but nevertheless, we should not allow either party to determine the redistricting. Let's totally remove partisan bias from the process, regardless of the party in power.</p> <p>The second harm produced by the post-2010 redistricting is in the quality of the General Assembly so engendered. This we can judge by the quality of the legislation produced. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the shameful bathroom bill (now partially reversed); • the voter suppression bill (tossed out by the courts); • the refusal of Medicaid expansion to cover around a half million of our citizens; • the cut to unemployment benefits to the lowest period of eligibility in the country and the 46th lowest average level of benefits; • cuts to public K-12 education (NC per pupil spending is 43rd in the nation, with teacher pay at about the same ranking, until some improvement this year); • budget cuts to higher education, so that in-state UNC tuition has doubled over the last ten years; • the moratorium on wind farms, while climate change picks up its

3884		Aug 23 2017 5:17PM	Craig Landwehr	I wholeheartedly object to the continued partisan gerrymandering that is on full display this week. For the sake of our democracy, I urge you to embrace the independent commission recommended by Common Cause NC.
3885		Aug 23 2017 5:21PM	Ms. brenda bergeron	We need to have fairness in voting. One person one vote. Our racist legislature needs to stop trying to suppress the African-American vote. You should be ashamed of trying to take our state back to Jim Crow!
3886		Aug 23 2017 5:22PM	Ms. brenda bergeron	We need to have fairness in voting. One person one vote. Our racist legislature needs to stop trying to suppress the African-American vote. You should be ashamed of trying to take our state back to Jim Crow! You make me ashamed to be from this state!
3887		Aug 23 2017 5:35PM	Patricia Payne	I believe we are trading race for political party gerrymandering. Can we not have a non biased redistricting that doesn't favor one party over the other? I'm so disappointed that our republican legislators want to be sure they are re-elected based on party and not on position.
3888		Aug 23 2017 5:45PM	Mr. Bill Herndon	I've been appalled by the actions of the NCGA with respect to the process and the result. What I want from my government is: an OPEN PROCESS, HONESTY, and redistricting that set districts lines based on equal numbers of citizens without attempts to skew boundaries to accomplish goals based on race, political affiliation, income, or other artificial factors. The result from you so far is EXACTLY THE OPPOSITE. I request that you do the right thing, the thing the courts have ordered you to do: Create FAIR DISTRICTS for all State and Federal offices and CEASE TRYING TO ENRICH AND EMPOWER YOURSELVES.
3889		Aug 23 2017 6:18PM	Ms. Geraldine Barksdale	I am 73, Black, and held two jobs for a total of fifty years. I do not like feeling my vote is wasted because the republicans are gerrymandering, controlling who I vote for. Republican controlled house and senate tried their damndest to reelect your former governor, thank God with all the crooked things done he did not make it. All the crooked things done by republicans is how this mess ended up being your president, if you all are satisfied with 45, fine but this country is being torn apart and for what? black people are not going back to the fifties and sixties. Stopl inteffering with my vote.
3890		Aug 23 2017 6:34PM	Justin Landwehr	My fondest hope is to see the red-blue divide bridged within my lifetime, and I believe a first big step toward that would be a non-partisan svstem of drawing districts.
3891		Aug 23 2017 7:04PM	Mrs. Frann Sarpolus	Having studied the posted maps, charts, and well as the previous district maps and their demographics, I endorse the passage of these proposed new House and Senate districts. I applaud the Senate and House Redistricting Committees on a hard job thoroughly well done. Being a Wake County resident, I find the new districts to be fairly proportioned resulting in representation for the constituents by the party that most accurately aligns with the political ideology of the district residents. Studying the current precinct demographics reveals that of the 11 House Representatives and 5 Senators elected in Wake County, the new districts with the majority of Democrats are being represented by a Democratic and the new districts with the majority of Republicans are being represented by a Republican (noting Senator Barefoot's retirement and Senator Alexander being moved from district 15 to district 18 and Senator Chaudhuri being moved from district 16 to district 15, district 16 is now left without a current incumbent, but the demographics are pretty obvious on how that district will vote). Thank you for all your hard work. You deserve our gratitude. Frann Sarpolus Wake County
3892		Aug 23 2017 7:24PM	Mrs. Ashlee Russeau-Pletcher	Please put together a nonpartisan independent commission to create these districts. This partisanship is destroying our state.
3893		Aug 23 2017 8:05PM	Ms. Ruth Talley	I prefer to believe there are at least a few of you who are now thinking enough is enough. Please prove me right & fight for the people in your state vs trying to ensure you maintain your position in the NCGA. Give us a process for drawing political district maps that is independent, fair and transparent, adheres to the VRA, avoids racial or partisan gerrymandering, and allows voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around. The maps themselves must be free from partisan politics & past election results, encompass full communities & areas of interest, ensure minorities have a fair chance to choose their politicians, reflect the diversity of the constituents & be compact & contiguous. Change please!
3894		Aug 23 2017 8:06PM	Mr. Alex Rosen	I am writing in opposition to the process being used for redistricting. Others have made the points I would make about how important fair maps are to proper functioning of our government. I would like to add that, from direct experience in asking alright approximately 100 random attendees at a Saturday morning street fair in Wake Forest about this issue, I found overwhelming support for fair maps, even from those whose party might lose seats of the districts were more competitive. It seems that demographics and public opinion are shifting in such a way that politicians will be rewarded for moderating their positions on this issue. So, while I see this as a fundamental issue of fairness, those who are not in the safest of districts may want to consider the negative implications of being grouped in with those who put raw partisanship ahead of the interest of the people. You'll likely need independents to win and independents are not fond of partisanship (by definition). Be smart.

3895		Aug 23 2017 8:14PM	Janette Winsor	I was unable to attend a public hearing yesterday but I wanted to add my voice to those calling for fair electoral maps. I would like North Carolina to become known for protecting and upholding the democratic process, for ensuring that everyone's voice and vote is heard, and for its constituents to be represented well. Currently we are known for being one of the most divisive and gerrymandered states in the country and I think fighting for a fair process and representative districts is the first step in repairing our reputation. Please make sure that the redrawing of legislative maps is done by an impartial committee to ensure fair maps. Thank you.
3896		Aug 23 2017 8:20PM	Mrs. Jennifer Payne	North Carolinians Demand Reform We are tired of politicians rigging elections to reduce competition and protect themselves from being held accountable. We demand a government of, by and for the people. (1) A new poll shows that four out of five North Carolina voters (80%) say it's not fair for politicians to draw their own districts. That includes 85% of Democrats, 74% of Republicans, 80% of independents – as well as 70% of Trump supporters and 80% of African Americans. (2) The redistricting process must be open, avoid racial or partisan gerrymandering, and allow voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around.
3897		Aug 23 2017 8:21PM	Dr. Scott Buell	The maps should NOT use voter affiliation to draw districts but rather a computer program that creates the most concise and compact districts. I do not want to attend a town hall meeting halfway across two counties! Quit spending taxpayer money and let a computer program draw districts - that will lead to elections where politicians actually have to run on their ability to lead and govern!
3898		Aug 23 2017 8:21PM	Mrs. Jennifer Payne	A Sham Redistricting Process Is Insulting. Legislative leaders continue to stall and avoid fixing their unconstitutional maps. They: (1) hired the same consultant (Thomas Hofeller) who drew the current illegal maps. He is nationally known for rigging maps to help his Republican clients. (2) declared they would not consider the race of voters, as if that would stop them from drawing biased maps. In fact, that approach ignores the directive of the courts to examine whether black voters have a fair chance to elect candidates of their choice in the new districts. (3) declared they would consider past election outcomes and the ability of their party to win elections in the new districts. They admit they drew districts for partisan advantage. (4) refused to reveal the new maps until just before this hearing – and then didn't provide data about registration or race to fully analyze the
3899		Aug 23 2017 8:22PM	Mrs. Jennifer Payne	New Maps Attempt to Protect an Illegal Legislature. Legislators elected from illegal districts have created new maps to protect themselves. (1) N.C. lawmakers have used unlawful gerrymandering to win elections in 2012, 2014 and 2016; they keep passing laws in an illegal General Assembly that can ignore voters. (2) The new maps continue extreme partisan gerrymandering. About 90% of the districts clearly favor one party, creating safe seats, with little or no partisan competition. (3) General Assembly leaders have spent \$4.8 million of taxpayers' money to defend their maps in court, but they keep losing. Stop
3900		Aug 23 2017 8:30PM	Ms. Laura Tuson	I am writing to express my support for a non-partisan redistricting process. This is essential to ensure equal representation for all North Carolinians, regardless of which party happens to be in power now or in the future.
3901		Aug 23 2017 8:40PM	Desiree Clemons	Please appoint a non partisan committee to redraw the voting districts. End gerrymandering now!

3902		Aug 23 2017 8:44PM	Dr. Melva Fager Okun	<p>My name is Melva Fager Okun. I have lived in Carrboro for forty years. During that time, I have regularly walked these halls speaking to Senators and Representatives about environmental and health protections. These include making our schools, restaurants and bars, and hospitals tobacco-free. I never thought some day I’d return to ask for protection of the vote.</p> <p>We desperately need new, fair and legal voting districts. I’ve waited a year for new maps and instead got them the day before this public hearing. That immediately tells me how much you value the public’s input. I wondered how a group with leaders from 28 illegally drawn voting districts could possibly be charged with drawing the new maps. And I was shocked to hear that the same company that drew the illegal maps was rehired to draw the new maps.</p> <p>Your actions are stunning and memorable. You are creating and solidifying your legacy. I am currently reading a book about the fight for the right to vote by African-American leaders returning from WW II. The top leaders, such as Medgar Evers, knew that they risked their lives in doing so; and too many were murdered fighting for this right.</p> <p>Instead of denying the right to vote, you are engaged in something as horrific. You have worked tirelessly to make people’s votes meaningless, while also making it harder to vote. This is your legacy. You are the equivalent of White Supremacists.</p> <p>But I, and millions of North Carolinians, are paying attention. Some of us are here today to let you know we will do everything we can to stop you from your ill-intended deeds. We see this as a vital issue - the keystone to a democracy.</p>
3903		Aug 23 2017 8:46PM	Mr. Charlie Perry	<p>It is with great sadness that all my life Berte and Hertford Counties has always been a part of the same district. I am not please with how Bertie County will join with counties that we have no connection. Bertie County needs good representation in Raleigh.</p> <p>I agree with REP Howard Hunter III, I do not think that Bertie and Hertford Counties should be separated. These two counties have always been together and to separate these two counties would not be good for the citizens of Bertie County.</p>
3904		Aug 23 2017 8:47PM	Mr. Joel Wooten	<p>Everybody has a right to have people represent them in office black, red or white?</p>
3905		Aug 23 2017 8:50PM	Mrs. Amy Megginson	<p>I'm disgusted by the Republicans that think they can run roughshod over our rights. There is absolutely NO normal reason that we can't go by zip codes or counties. NO need to reinvent the wheel, use one of those methods. Pickina voters is deplorable.</p>
3906		Aug 23 2017 8:51PM	Ms. Margaret Leinbach	<p>Turn the redistricting process over to a nonpartisan panel where the number one priority is the voters not political advantage to one political party.</p>
3907		Aug 23 2017 8:53PM	Lois Sauer	<p>It is time to stop setting up voting districts for political gain.</p> <p>It is time to adopt NON-PARTISAN procedures for drawing districts.</p> <p>Please consider the proposals by Common Cause.</p>
3908		Aug 23 2017 8:57PM	Ms. Anna Cowden	<p>Add my name and voice to those outraged by redistricting efforts to silence NC residents. We need representatives who represent citizens - not their own self interests.</p>
3909		Aug 23 2017 8:58PM	Dr. Dennis Nagy	<p>The new district maps drawn up by paid consultants to the GOP-dominated NC legislature are a sham. Please do not allow these district boundaries to stand.</p>
3910		Aug 23 2017 9:00PM	Ms. Joy Goodwin	<p>It is fundamentally unfair for politicians to draw their own districts.</p> <p>The redistricting process must be open and transparent. It must avoid racial or partisan gerrymandering.</p> <p>It must allow voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around.</p> <p>Anything less is a betrayal of the public trust.</p>
3911		Aug 23 2017 9:04PM	Mr. Kasem Mohsen	<p>It is past time for legislative districting in North Carolina to properly reflect the vibrant diversity of this great state. The people demand fair and equal representation in government, and an abolishment of unfair, partisan and unconstitutional gerrymandering. In addition, we demand a transparent and just process using independent parties to ensure that districts are drawn in a manner that accurately represents North Carolina's fine democracy.</p>

3912		Aug 23 2017 9:06PM	Ms. Lyn Hawks	<p>Dear House and Senate Redistricting Committee Members,</p> <p>North Carolinians are tired of gerrymandering and the politicians who practice it.</p> <p>(1) A new poll shows that four out of five North Carolina voters (80%) say it’s not fair for politicians to draw their own districts. That includes 85% of Democrats, 74% of Republicans, 80% of independents – as well as 70% of Trump supporters and 80% of African Americans.</p> <p>(2) The redistricting process must be open, avoid racial or partisan gerrymandering, and allow voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around.</p> <p>(3) We should research the practices used in other states and adopt principles that encourage deep community involvement. Fair redistricting should follow these basic principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Race is Key: Map drawers must ensure that it is possible for black voters to elect their candidates of choice, as required by the Voting Rights Act. • “One person, one vote:” Districts must be very equal in population and obey other laws. • Geographic Compactness: Map drawers must create compact districts, without odd tentacles. Districts must not skip over areas or join two areas at just one point. • Count Incarcerated Persons as residents of their pre-incarceration home or family residence for purposes of redistricting. • No Favoritism: Map drawers must not use the addresses of current lawmakers, or the party affiliation or voting history of voters, or other
3913		Aug 23 2017 9:06PM	Mr. IAN GUTHRIE	<p>What you are doing is shameful. It is 100% transparently unethical and immoral. The general public is overwhelmingly against you. If you really believe in the democratic process and have any faith that the laws you are trying to legislate are just, do the right thing and let the people of this great State be represented in a fair and honest way. If you would like someone to help you draw an honest map, I would gladly do it for free.</p>
3914		Aug 23 2017 9:06PM	Mr. Larry Hannon	<p>I arrived at 4:00 for the "hearing" and because the room reserved was much too small we waited for more than an hour without being able to hear the fabrications about how the boundaries were determined. After viewing the maps it's clear that very little has changed. We need an impartial task force to independently draw boundaries that have nothing to do with voter affiliation.</p>
3915		Aug 23 2017 9:06PM	Mr. Frederick Dixon	<p>Fair districts benefit everyone. Tinkering to keep any party in power may seem appealing to some in the short run but we will all suffer ultimately when people legitimately feel as though they have no stake in the political process. Proven and non partisan ways of redistricting are available for the brave and just minded among you. Let the people sneak</p>
3916		Aug 23 2017 9:10PM	Mr. Donald Harland	<p>We need redistricting map that are fair, contiguous, evenly drawn with geographic landmarks as borders that fit the region and free of any effort or plan to support partisan objectives or racial discrimination. The districts should be drawn without any regard to racial make-up, past voting history, or party affiliation. This is a democracy and the wishes of the voters should be heard without manipulation by the State government.</p>
3917		Aug 23 2017 9:11PM	Ms. Minda Brooks	<p>I strongly urge lawmakers to act with integrity and lead by choosing to save and strengthen our democracy through nonpartisan redistricting.</p>
3918		Aug 23 2017 9:12PM	Mrs. Susan Nininger	<p>As I understand it, there are honorable legislators from both parties willing to work out an equitable redistricting solution. I urge you to reach a bipartisan conclusion to this horrible mess that has made us the redheaded step child and laughing stock of the nation.</p> <p>You do not have my permission to waste another dime of my tax dollars to fight the Supreme Court or the NC State Courts on this greedy, power grabbing mess.</p> <p>Fix it fairly, "justice for all". If you don't work for us, you are against us and we will not forget.</p> <p>If it were up to me you would all be gone Democrat and Republican and we would start fresh.</p>
3919		Aug 23 2017 9:13PM	Peter Latham	<p>Redistricting should not result in partisan advantages for one political party over the other. Such an outcome would clearly be un-American.</p>
3920		Aug 23 2017 9:13PM	Mrs. Claudia Thuring	<p>I am appalled at the new redistricting done by the same group who did the last one. Every vote should count. I strongly recommend an independent non partisan committee do the new maps. We need to restore democracy to NC.</p>
3921		Aug 23 2017 9:14PM	Katherine Weaver	<p>We are suppose to live in a democracy! Let's make sure we maintain that system with fair, non partisan districts!</p>
3922		Aug 23 2017 9:19PM	Gabrielle White	<p>North Carolina has been gerrymandered by the Republican Party to the extent that we are no longer a democratic state. The lines that have been drawn not only violate the rights of North Carolina citizens, but are blatantly drawn to suppress the African-American vote. We North Carolina citizens deserve nothing less than a non-partisan voting process. It is in the best interest of all people, that we make sure that our districts are drawn fairly, without regard to race,, class or political party.</p>

3923		Aug 23 2017 9:20PM	Veronika Gunter	Restore the power of each vote by using nonpartisan mathematical algorithms or the efficiency gap to cease gerrymandering and cease packing and cracking voters. Here are links to articles including scholarly articles on these simple, transparent methods: Algorithms specifically for democratizing districts: https://www.nature.com/news/the-mathematicians-who-want-to-save-democracy-1.22113 Research paper on the same: https://arxiv.org/abs/1704.03360 Efficiency gap: https://www.chicagomaroon.com/article/2017/6/24/law-school-professor-helping-scotus-rethink-gerrymandering/ Abstract of research on the same: https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2457468 If you have trouble with any of these links or these concepts, email me and
3924		Aug 23 2017 9:21PM	Dr. John Roberts	You can't fool people with your sham attempt at complying with the courts. Stop gerrymandering and go to apolitical committee!
3925		Aug 23 2017 9:22PM	Mr. Craig Schaub	The newly proposed maps appear to show some improvement over previous maps. In particular, they are more compact and more oriented around municipal and county lines. But these new maps still expose significant problems. Race must be taken into account in order to remedy the unconstitutionality of many the previous district delineations. There is strong evidence of packing and cracking districts. The new Senate district for the Winston-Salem area is entirely packed with the area precincts that have voted Democratic in the last eight major elections, while there is hardly any blue in the other Forsyth County district. One cannot ignore the Campaign Legal Center's analysis indicating nearly a -12% efficiency gap for both House and Senate districts. We can approve these maps and then have to do it all over again depending on the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in the upcoming case of Vill v. Whitford. Let's get transparency, equity, racial balance, and non-partisan drawing right this time rather than waste more money, time, and frustration.
3926		Aug 23 2017 9:25PM	Melissa Murphy	We need a nonpartisan commission! These latest maps continue to gerrymander districts. Let North Carolinians vote and stop playing politics with representation.
3927		Aug 23 2017 9:28PM	Dr. Judith Adams	I insist on fair redistricting now. Racial gerrymandering is a tool of white supremacy, and is profoundly immoral. The eyes of the nation are on NC, and our redistricting process must be open and allow voters to pick their representatives, not the other way around.
3928		Aug 23 2017 9:28PM	Mrs. Evelyn Coltman	Current legislative maps reveal that our legislature is attempting to manipulate the system so that the representatives and senators our people really want to elect are maneuvered about so that we are forced to elect people that we really don't want. Shame on the Republican legislators who are attempting to disrupt our right to vote the way we as citizens see fit. Maps should reflect the true makeup of a voting district rather than how the legislator would like it to be to benefit the legislative group currently in power. This attitude must change if we truly want to continue as a democratic republic.
3929		Aug 23 2017 9:29PM	Mr. Johnnie Darden	We are concerned that the GOP Redistricting of the voting map is not reflective of the 2008, 2012 district maps. We are requesting that you use the map to re-draw those districts affected.
3930		Aug 23 2017 9:29PM	Ms. Bette Meyer	Currently proposed districts ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE., We want districts that fairly and accurately represent the people of NC. Urge you to go back to the drawing board and draw districts that represent PEOPLE, not POLITICS! We are watching!!
3931		Aug 23 2017 9:31PM	Mr. Tim struttmann	Thank you for the opportunity to discuss the changes you propose. I have a few comments about the process and a few about the content. First, in presenting this to the public, the people you serve, with a very short window for discussion and without the complete data to evaluate the maps are inappropriate. The lack of transparency has eroded trust in you and your ability to represent me. The delay tactic further signifies your inability or unwillingness to appreciate another view. The process here lacks basic principle of honesty. I expect better from you. In terms of the outcomes: Drawing districts for partisan advantage is not in the spirit of a true democracy. Please start over. Competition is good. As you have drawn the districts with an intended outcome, it stacks the deck and undermines competition. Please start over. The maps as presented create further divisions - they separate further and call out or accentuate the differences among people, not the sameness. Promoting these differences leads to social unrest, aggression, and ultimately a fractured society. Please start over. So, the process used here was flawed. To represent the districts, it must be open and saturated in community involvement and participation permitting adequate time to evaluate what you are proposing. The maps as drawn do not appear to be based on the fundamantal principle of a democracy. Tim Struttmann Hurdle Mills

3932		Aug 23 2017 9:33PM	Louise Glickman	<p>Because I fear you will only read the first line of this comment, if any, here is part of the comments I could not deliver in Hudson, NC yesterday due to your convoluted attempts at a public comment meeting on NC’s Redistricting Plan. I was the 16th person to sign up in Hudson, but would have been the 75th to speak, an estimated 4 hour wait, clearly an attempt to delay and deny that any opposition voices be heard.</p> <p>“The NC Legislature has consistently used power plays to undermine fair and equitable voting which is currently based solely on conservative voting preferences. 90% of state legislators now have safe seats with little to no competition. You have used \$4.8 million of taxpayer money to defend maps that you know do not comply with court decisions to continually engage in expensive court battles to delay fair redistricting. I consider this an assault on my pocket book as well as voting rights in NC. ”</p> <p>Taxation without representation caused a revolution that helped found our proud Democracy. The response of bi-partisan voters in NC to your shenanigans is that voting be fair and that our voices be heard. Winning by undermining democratic principles is not a “win” but a “power play.”</p>
3933		Aug 23 2017 9:33PM	Mr. John Barnhardt III	<p>Your "new" redistricting maps are as racial and generally anti-democratic as your previous capers. Cut the stuff and make us all as equal as you can in the impact of our votes. Some of us don't like it when the legislators pick their voters, which is exactly what you, our legislature, are and have been doing. We want democracy, not nltocracy.</p>
3934		Aug 23 2017 9:35PM	Mr. Richard Friend	<p>I formally request that my public comments recorded on Tuesday, 08/22/2017 at Beaufort Community College be entered into the official record and delivered to the Court for the Courts consideration. I further request that the Court take notice of my claim that the hearings should fail due to lack of Notice and Opportunity due to the intentional failure if the NC Legislature to provide appropriate public notice for the hearing, and the failure to release the data necessary for an authentic and effective analysis until less than 24 hours before these 'hearings'.</p>
3935		Aug 23 2017 9:37PM	Mrs. Marie B Keller	<p>I am so disappointed in these new maps--let's have non-partisan designed districts and give every citizen of voting age the opportunity to vote and have his or her vote count.</p>
3936		Aug 23 2017 9:42PM	Mr. Daryl Ball	<p>North Carolina is better than what the GOP's partisan maps are offering us. The development of modern mapping technology has allowed the GOP majority to abuse the system, flaunt the spirit of the law and defy the courts. It is my hope that the courts will act in order to ensure that the voices of the voters are not negated. With these new maps, the GOP is flaunting the court’s orders -- they hired the same mapmaker using the same software, excluded race (which may violate the Voting Rights Act), drafted their maps in secret and included partisanship. Looking over the House map, in particular, the GOP has unnecessarily redrawn districts that were not even affected by the Court ruling. The current crop of lawmakers have shown themselves to be either unable or unwilling to follow the court's’ orders and draw fair maps.</p> <p>In order to be fair, new maps must be compact, contiguous, and must comply with the Voting Rights Act to give minority voters an opportunity to elect their candidates of choice.The maps must also be free from partisan politics, ignoring voter registration data and past election results. They must also ignore incumbent addresses, to avoid intentionally “double-bunking” two incumbents in order to force one of them out of office.</p> <p>Under the current process, any maps that are approved will have been voted on by the unconstitutional legislature that was elected using those racially gerrymandered maps. To adequately solve these problems, we need nonpartisan redistricting that is removed from the legislative process. Voters should choose their representatives, not the other way around.</p>
3937		Aug 23 2017 9:48PM	Mrs. Maryann Pitman	<p>It is the duty of the Legislature to represent ALL citizens. It is the responsibility of the Legislature to ensure that every vote counts, not to stack the deck against one party to ensure that the majority party stays in power despite the votes of the state's citizens.Failure to accomplish this turns the state into a tin pot dictatorship, and risks the well-being of the Republic as a whole. The conduct of the Legislature in North Carolina has been unacceptable. It is time to solve this problem before it creates a backlash that damages you permanently and tarnishes your party as well. This household will not vote for Republican candidates while they rely on illegal and unconstitutional measures to retain power.</p>

3938		Aug 23 2017 9:52PM	Nicole Accordino	I am a long time North Carolina resident working to provide social support services to fellow North Carolinians. I wholeheartedly oppose the maps that were released on Monday. I think it is ridiculous that the maps were not revealed until the day before the hearing, without time for adequate time for public comment. In addition, the maps that were released continue to demonstrate partisan gerrymandering and currently, 90% of districts continue to favor one party. I do not believe that politicians should draw their own districts. I do think that this process of racial gerrymandering creates racial divisions and continues to reinforce white supremacy. The process of drawing maps should be open, with voters picking their political representatives.
3939		Aug 23 2017 9:54PM	Dr. Victor Vance	Public confidence in the election process is declining in North Carolina because the Legislature 1) Has been found guilty of rigging the voting by the Federal Court system and 2) The re- drawn lines are also rigged to throw the vote toward a certain political party. Unless you balance districts where where candidates from all political parties have a fair and equal chance at being elected, citizens of North Carolina will lose confidence in the NC Legislature. The next step will be a loss of confidence and disregard for any law the legislature passes.
3940		Aug 23 2017 9:56PM	Mrs. Mary Barzee	To whom it may concern: I am deeply troubled by the process by which the new voting maps we're drawn as well as the fairness of the maps. I am angry that my tax dollars are being used to draw partisan, racially gerrymandered maps - again. Let's get this right, already! The redistricting process must be open, avoid racial or partisan gerrymandering, and allow voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around. Fix it, by appointing an independent organization that can and will create non-biased maps. Sincerely, Mary Barzee
3941		Aug 23 2017 9:56PM	Ms. Cynthia Charles	The new legislative district maps seem to continue partisan gerrymandering, clearly favoring one party and discouraging competition. I would like to see them redrawn to be more fair and competitive.
3942		Aug 23 2017 10:02PM	William Sorenson	I support both recommendations.
3943		Aug 23 2017 10:09PM	Ms. Karen Reynolds	This new map is frankly not much better than the last one. It in the end ignores the voice of the people of NC. It places political control in the hands of a few. In the end, it is destroying this state and all it has stood for in the past. We the people of this state want our democracy back!
3944		Aug 23 2017 10:14PM	Ms. Marnie Thompson	The maps -- exchanging partisan gerrymandering for racial gerrymandering -- and the process surrounding "public input" on the maps are a sham. I and hundreds of NC residents wrote to the redistricting wrote committee members early in the process, asking to see the maps they were considering, but we were provided nothing. The maps come out a day before hastily scheduled public hearings, and these hearing are held simultaneously in tiny inaccessible places. It is obvious that partisan concerns are what is dominating the legislature's process, so there is no sincere interest in what the public has to say. This sham process is almost certainly going to result in more litigation, costing the state time and money, But as far as the legislature is concerned, that's okay, because all that litigation takes time, and while things are tied up in court, the partisanship just continues and solidifies. This is not what US democracy is supposed to look like!
3945		Aug 23 2017 10:19PM	Ms. Kimberly Gotwals	1. I oppose any redistricting plan whose aim is to protect incumbents, some of whom are in the racially gerrymandered districts determined to be unconstitutional. Why protect people illegally elected? 2. The News and Observer reported August 23 that only 10 out of 50 Senate seats (a paltry 20%) are likely be competitive and only 19 of 120 (an even more dismal figure - 16%) would be competitive. If districts are drawn to be so skewed that it's not even worth attempting an opposing campaign, I ask, is this a fair, representative democracy? No. 3. The process followed to redraw the new districts was appallingly misguided. Using the same consultant who helped draw the unconstitutional districts was not a wise move. Besides which, politicians should not draw the districts. This job needs to be done by an impartial third party, such as a panel of judges. 4. Racial gerrymandering is a blatant assertion of white supremacy. We are better than that. Our state needs balanced representation for all citizens. Thank you. Kim Gotwals

3946		Aug 23 2017 10:29PM	Mr. Richard Pigossi	There really is no constitutionally valid alternative other than independent, professionally and transparently conducted redistricting. This surely is in the best interest of EVEYONE in the long run, across the political spectrum. Let open debate and fair, truly representative voting alone determine our future political direction, whatever it may be
3947		Aug 23 2017 10:31PM	Chris Powers	The Senates redistricting proposal is a joke and blatant misuse of power. We as North Carolinians deserve to be represented by people who represent their district.
3948		Aug 23 2017 10:31PM	Dr. Jay Newhard	<p>I am disappointed and, frankly, angry, that it has been so difficult to convince the North Carolina General Assembly and its committees that we need to have fairly drawn voting districts, not based on race or political party. I understand that only the former is illegal. But the fact is that the benefits of democracy can be achieved only when there is a genuine and fair competition between the two major political parties. I also understand that this request is more challenging to accomplish than one might think at first. But it is quite clear that the mandated proposed districts were not drawn in good faith, but to preserve the same gerrymandered forfeiture of democracy we've endured for the past several years. Please do what you can to draw the districts impartially, i.e., without regard to race or political affiliation or voting tendency. The system works well if it is set up this way, and there is widespread and bipartisan support among citizens for it.</p> <p>Thank you for considering my remarks.</p>
3949		Aug 23 2017 10:40PM	Ali Nininger-Finch	Three years ago, I was inspired by the actions of the NC legislature to go to law school. I graduated in May and took the bar exam last month. The State's maps have already been declared unconstitutional once, and now you've got a new lawyer ready to challenge the maps again if they continue to be racist. Be non-partisan and do it right this time please
3950		Aug 23 2017 10:55PM	Mr. Robert Schultz	<p>We live in a democracy...or so we're told. But when the candidates of one political party win a majority (50.6%) of the total votes and 81,000 more votes statewide than those of the losing party, but 9 of the 13 congressional seats are awarded to the runner-up party's candidates, something stinks, and it's obvious that democracy was undermined. This was the outcome in NC in the 2012 US House races, due to gerrymandering. (Source: http://results.enr.clarityelections.com/NC/42923/123365/Web01/en/summary.html)</p> <p>We can't come up with data for a comparable analysis for recent State House and Senate races since so many seats go unchallenged by candidates of parties that don't stand a chance of winning in super-gerrymandered districts, but it's evident that the party in power is represented in the General Assembly in numbers far disproportionate to the votes they received and the will of the People. It's disgraceful and disgusting that a political party resorts to stealing elections and undermining the will of the People to retain their power when their destructive ideas and unpopular platforms aren't good enough to win victories at the ballot box. This behavior and usurpation of power is abhorrent to those who believe in democracy and fairness, and it's destructive to our freedom.</p> <p>We have an unconstitutional legislature, and it's time to restore democracy to our great and proud state. A good place to start would be with the implementation of district maps drawn by a bipartisan or non-partisan commission; not by an unconstitutionally (as determined by the courts) elected legislature that hired a map creator whose previous work has been discredited and thrown out by the courts for being out of compliance with the law.</p>
3951		Aug 23 2017 11:06PM	Mrs. Ellen Weiner	I do NOT support including previous voting records as a factor to consider in re-drawing our NC voter districts! Why can you not simply make "compact, contiguous as much as possible, and equal amounts of the population as much as possible" be the guide? I'm a tax-paying registered Independent, and I do not trust a super-majority legislature to re-draw our illegal voting districts in a nonpartisan manner. If it turns out the court agrees a second time, I think the court should re-draw our maps and and then an independent commission be established to do the job from here on. I want to get the partisan politics out of the redistricting process as much as humanly possible. I attended the public hearing in Jamestown on Tuesday, Aug 22, and (once again) was so discouraged and disillusioned by the majority party's handling of this issue. That said, history shows neither political party in NC can be trusted to draw nonpartisan voting districts, so I want an independent commission to be in charge in NC. As former NC Supreme Court Justice Rhoda Billings (Republican) said in January about the re-districting exercise she and Justice Henry Frye (Democrat) led, "it's not difficult when you're not trying to gerrymander."

3952		Aug 23 2017 11:07PM	Paul Rosenberg	A fair and impartial election system is the foundation of our democracy. The drawing of electoral districts should be done with an eye to the responsibility that implies. When maps are drawn to favor the party in power or to weaken the voices of specific voters, the very bedrock of our country’s principles are violated, and the America that stands for equality, fairness and playing by the rules fades in to the past. I need to be able to tell my children that regardless of whether they agree with government, they can trust the system that elected that government, and this I cannot do at present. I call on the NC State Legislature to honor our country’s democracy and their responsibility to it, and produce fair, clean districts for the state of NC.
3953		Aug 23 2017 11:10PM	Ms. Erin Prendergast	Maps redrawn to ensure preconceived bi-partisan goals based on race and class lines are degrading, undemocratic, and, frankly, appalling. It's a base from of using loopholes to cheat one's way into office and make it look official. Representatives should actually *represent* their constituency and the fact we even have to have a debate regarding whether gerrymandering is wrong is patronizing to all decent people, with a grain of common sense and knowledge. People already have little faith in political policy; don't give us another reason to lose faith and raise our voices even higher until we are heard. It will happen. We will do it. We are the people. Do what's right and remember that when you are making this decision.
3954		Aug 23 2017 11:14PM	Ms. Neela McDade	Please create legislative districts that are sway our legislative bodies either Republican or Democratic.
3955		Aug 23 2017 11:15PM	Mr. C Geoffrey Wingard	Ladies and Gentlemen of the North Carolina Redistricting Committees, As a registered and active Republican voter, I am utter appalled by the ongoing partisan gerrymandering of districts in our state. Using the biased consultant, Thomas Hofeller (who drew the illegal districts that have been struck down), once again is a disgrace, and a clear indication of the lack of integrity that the current Republican party leadership, and the current redistricting plan, has. The maps for redistricting in North Carolina need to be done by an independent, and bi-partisan, or even better, nonpartisan, committee of citizens. The members of the redistricting commission should be from the business community, clergy, educators, and other ordinary citizens. Politicians need to stay out of the process. Period. An ETHICAL party wins elections by having better candidates and better ideas - not by drawing gerrymandered districts and slinging insane amounts of money into campaigns. If candidates of the Republican Party can not compete with candidates from the Democratic and other parties on a level playing field on the basis of policies and ideas, then the Republican candidates DESERVE to loose. It means your policies and ideas do not address the needs and desires of the voters. The great Republican President, Dwight D. Eisenhower warned us, in his farewell speech: "In the councils of government, we must guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial complex. The potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced
3956		Aug 23 2017 11:25PM	Dr. Jeanne Van Divender	I was very disappointed when I saw the proposed maps. The NCGA was mandated by the Courts to draw fair maps. But these maps are in insult and injustice to the voters of North Carolina. These are simply another version of the gerrymandered maps that were deemed unconstitutional. Do not insult us with these games. It is VERY simple to draw fair and balanced districts. Once again we ask you to draw districts that are geographically compact - without these crazy shapes. Elections and districting should be for the rights and protections of voters. They should not be a means for incumbents to pick their voters. You have several maps drawn by nonpartisan groups that would work well. Use them and stop jerking the constituents of NC
3957		Aug 23 2017 11:26PM	Ms. Peggy Baker	It's time for the Republicans in the legislature to stop playing partisan politics, stop drawing illegal maps, and stop making our state the laughingstock of the nation. If the members are afraid to face voters in honest and representative districts, they need to consider what they are doing to cause the voters to question their suitability for their jobs.
3958		Aug 23 2017 11:44PM	Mr. Paul Brown	Gerry mandering needs to go the way of the dinosaurs! Both parties can benefit from FAIR redistricting. Manipulation of districts approaches squashing voter rights! The current legislature has done enough damage to the confidence of the People of North Carolina!

3959		Aug 23 2017 11:51PM	Mrs. Tami Oden	My 9 year old daughter and I attended the public hearing in Raleigh to discuss redisteicting plans. There were hundreds of attendees in Raleigh alone. We were among 50-70 people situated in the 3rd overflow room. I did not have the opportunity to speak, because I needed to leave for 4th grade orientation at 6:30pm at North Raleigh Christian Academy. So I have decided to write to you instead. I humbly ask you to give North Carolinians fair maps and the justice we deserve. I, along with 80% of NC voters say that it is not fair for politicians to draw their own redisteicting maps. Please dismiss the maps you had consultant Thomas Hofeller draw. They are just as flawed as his previous maps. Rather than hire the same consultant (whose previously drawn maps the courts have declared unconstitutional), please appoint an independent and bipartisan group to draw non partisan, fair maps. Please support HB 200 which does this very thing. Or I appeal to the courts to strike down your current maps and draw the maps themselves, as the judges have suggested will be done if you, our legislature (elected using unconstitutional and illegal maps) do not draw fair maps for your constituents. The current redisteicting maps are insulting and embarrassing to our state. You are leading us backwards in time, not forwards. You are suppressing voters, especially African American voters, just as has been done historically in the old south. These maps ignore the directive of the courts to examine whether African American voters have a fair chance to elect candidates of their choice to office in new districts. At a time when states like North Carolina and Virginia are embroiled in controversy over confederate monuments and white supremacy, you propose maps which, suppress democratic leaning distorts and in so doing you continue to suppress the African American vote. You are making North Carolina a laughing stock and embarrassment to the rest of the nation, when it comes to racial equality, and inviting those with alt right, white supremacy, and nazi leaning sentiments to gain further
3960		Aug 24 2017 12:01AM	Steve Cothran	Some words I shared last night at GTCC with the NC Legislature after the US Supreme Court’s unanimous judgment that our districts stand out as the most egregiously racially divided in the nation: I don’t know if y’all heard about this, but there was a total solar eclipse yesterday! That means the 2 celestial bodies that provide light to our world—in an incredibly rare display—worked together yesterday, and the results were life altering! Millions of Americans—millions—stood in awe to catch just a glimpse of this magnificent phenomenon. For many people, this was a once in a lifetime event. Yesterday, I stood in the backyard where I grew up in South Carolina, and during totality, we were able to look directly at the sun for over 2 minutes. How on earth is that possible? It’s possible because these 2 bodies worked together—and the world was amazed at the result! You—the NC legislature—have the same power to amaze the world—by working together! I know. It’s as rare—sorry, it’s more rare than a solar eclipse. But for the people of NC—the people you represent...or the people you should be representing—for these people it will truly be even more life-changing. And it will also be life-changing for you, our representatives. Because
3961		Aug 24 2017 12:11AM	Ms. Carolyn Blackburn	Appropriate districting, per the Brennan Institute: "How should the lines be drawn? A good redistricting process should help a community secure meaningful representation. Other than meeting the constitutional requirement that all votes should count equally, there is no magic formula." Just keep 'em fair, folks, lest the two party system dissolve.
3962		Aug 24 2017 12:39AM	Mr. Javier Rizo	Our legislative districts need to be free from bias, especially along partisan, racial, classist lines. Each vote should have equal voice - that's the great equalizer in a democracy. It is ridiculous to me that many in the legislature have stymied efforts to make these districts more democratic, and reflective of the people who live in this state. Do the right thing, and make fair, non-partisan districts!
3963		Aug 24 2017 12:51AM	Mr. Boyce Booth	If legislators can only keep their jobs by drawing districts that favor them, then they don` t deserve the job.

3964		Aug 24 2017 2:13AM	Mr. Carl Hintz	<p>Biased districts increase polarization. Constructing districts with a partisan bias is harmful to both political parties and harmful to the state of North Carolina because this reduces the number of competitive districts. Without competitive elections it is difficult to hold representatives accountable. Politically polarized candidates have an advantage over moderate candidates, because in the majority of districts the primary election is more likely to be competitive than the general election. The proposed districts are designed to give Republican incumbents an unearned electoral advantage.</p> <p>One person one vote. Any voter in North Carolina should have an equal chance of casting a vote that matters. The proposed house and senate maps disproportionately place Democratic leaning voters in safe districts thus diluting their voting power. One way to measure whether a proposed map is "fair" is to examine whether a voter has an equal chance of living in a competitive district regardless of what politically cohesive groups they belong to. The competitiveness of a district can be measured based on how individuals in that district voted in at large elections such as US Presidential, US Senatorial, or NC Gubernatorial elections.</p> <p>The proposed districts may be illegal. While the redistricting committees did not use racial data to draw the maps, the committees' proposed maps may still illegally disenfranchise African American and other minority voters. If an African American voter is more likely to live in a noncompetitive district than a Caucasian voter is then the proposed maps are still racially gerrymandered which the Supreme Court of the United States has held to be unconstitutional. It is a mistake to use incumbency protection as one</p>
3965		Aug 24 2017 2:15AM	Mr. C. Fred Pittenger	<p>It is clear that the Joint Committee on Redistricting should take a step back and reconsider Rules for using non-partisan criteria to draw legislative maps, adopting the nonpartisan criteria of House Bill 200 that has wide spread support from members of both parties. HB200 would take redistricting power out of the hands of partisan lawmakers and instead have nonpartisan legislative staff draw voting districts completely blind to partisan politics. They should set aside the Hofeller maps and do what is right for all North Carolinians.</p> <p>Moving forward with the Hofeller maps is sure to incur more lawsuits and millions of dollars defending a blatantly master minded power grab. It is also likely to incur the wrath of the Federal Judiciary Panel reviewing the maps and cost the assembly any power to draw maps in the future.</p>
3966		Aug 24 2017 4:30AM	Ann Brady	<p>copy of letter I have sent to Greensboro News and Record:</p> <p>With respect to fair redistricting, I wish to share a quote from Alice Ristroph, Brooklyn Law School professor (The Atlantic): We have figured out, more or less, how to count every person. We have not yet found a political system in which every person counts equally.</p> <p>The new districts remain wrong. I hope the reviewing judges will examine how many districts are heavily biased (packed) with Democrats or Republicans. These districts have no real opposition in general elections and safely protect Representatives and Senators who have no reason to even listen to those with whom they disagree. And these districts are admittedly carefully crafted to create more Republican districts and maintain the large current party majorities in our General Assembly despite the fact state-wide votes come in at about 50-50.</p> <p>What we need is a fair redistricting law. In 2015 HB 92 had bipartisan sponsorship by 63 representatives; it was killed in committee and not allow it to even go to the floor for debate. Subsequent attempts met similar fates. Such a bill should be introduced in the general assembly for discussion!</p> <p>We need fair opportunities to participate in our government. Each of us should count equally.</p>
3967		Aug 24 2017 5:03AM	Mrs. Teri Miller	<p>Our government was established by the people for the people.....GREAT to see the people's will heard and respected. Congratulations to the elected officials for representing those who elected you.</p>
3968		Aug 24 2017 5:47AM	Ms. Susan Powell	<p>I oppose any efforts to dominate state and county voting boards and voter mapping that created unfair and unlawful districting for our state elections. This behavior is not democratic nor does it represent the American fair election process. Republican law makers resort to unfair practices.. I strongly oppose this shameful and deplorable behavior.</p>

3969		Aug 24 2017 6:08AM	Nancy Polk	I understand that a redistricting committee is meeting now or soon. As a resident of NC I want to express my strong, strong concern for fair, nonpartisan, nonracial legislative mapping. It is TIME for us to come together and respect our right to fair, honest and just elections. Please, please do not try to manipulate our votes to support your and/or anyone else's preferences. This is OUR opportunity to participate in a just system that we all can accept, support and have pride in. I am so sad, angry and embarrassed by the underhanded, sick gerrymandering that has gone on in the past. Please stop this and act with integrity!!!
3970		Aug 24 2017 6:08AM	Mr. Robert Scull	Our former democracy is a sham when the majority of legislative districts are drawn to be non-competitive for the security of whatever party happens to be in power. Standards need to be set to make the districts more competitive.
3971		Aug 24 2017 6:22AM	Mrs. Kathy Stilwell	I support Enacting fair representation voting by requiring an independent redistricting commission to draw multi-member districts that would use ranked choice voting, to the end of ensuring partisan fairness, creating competition in every district, and enhancing the representation of racial minorities. the current redistricting map needs to be redrawn to include these factors
3972		Aug 24 2017 6:28AM	Ms. A Austin	Please correct the maps, and stop gerrymandering the North Carolina districts. It prevents equal or fair representation, and allowing "public servants" to pick their voters instead of the other way around. When the maps were found to be unconstitutional, and then y'all decided to have the same team/persons make the next set, was and is suspicious. Restore the power of each vote by using nonpartisan mathematical algorithms or the efficiency gap to cease gerrymandering and cease packing and cracking voters. Here are links to articles including scholarly articles on these simple, transparent methods: Algorithms specifically for democratizing districts: https://www.nature.com/.../the-mathematicians-who-want-to-sav... Research paper on the same: https://arxiv.org/abs/1704.03360 Efficiency gap: https://www.chicagomaroon.com/.../law-school-professor-helpi.../ Abstract of research on the same: https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2457468
3973		Aug 24 2017 6:30AM	Ms. Sandra Byrne	As part of the democratic process, it is imperative that redistricting lines be drawn fairly. This means that demographics such as race, political persuasion, age, etc. should NOT be a consideration when determining where voting districts are located. It is time to idevelop an impartial commission in NC to establish voting districts in such a way that regardless of which party is in power, districts are drawn fairly as intended by our founding fathers. I strongly feel that gerrymandering is unfair and undemocratic.
3974		Aug 24 2017 6:38AM	Ms. Cynthia Lopez	Please appoint a non-partisan commission to draw legislative district lines. It is the right thing to do and will eliminate issues when the state swings back to a Democratic -controlled legislature.
3975		Aug 24 2017 6:43AM	Mrs. Carole Dosch	America isn't easy at times, but when our elected legislature continuesto chip away at our basic ideals and the belief that everyone is "created equal" our democracy is diminishing. How does someone "love" America with the pretense of American ideals, yet take away one of the basic tenents of what this country was founded on? Instead of the continuation of your duplicitous acts why not try a new approach by putting America first instead of party. America citizens deserve what you have been elected to do when you take the oath of office, which, it seems that many of you spoke the words without understanding, or even caring the true meaning of them. So, I would like to remind you..... "I, _____, do solemnly and sincerely swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States; that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of North Carolina, and to the constitutional powers and authorities which are or may be established for the government thereof; and that I will endeavor to support, maintain and defend the Constitution of said State,not inconsistent with the Constitution of the United States, to the best of my knowledge and ability; so help me God." I can only hope and anticipate that your actions will start representing those words that you "faithfully" took and allow ALL Americans to participate in our elections. Thank you.
3976		Aug 24 2017 6:55AM	Mr. Stephen Graf	I am very disappointed by the attitude republican legislators, including those that represent my district, have taken towards fair representation. I know, and maybe now you know, that racial gerrymandering is illegal. But gerrymandering to gain political advantage should be illegal too. In a word, it is unsporting. You must ask yourself, if you can't win in a fair fight, maybe your views and goals aren't as noble as you'd like to think. I encourage the legislators who are drawing the new districts to do so without regard to political advantage and to be on the right side of history. Do the right thing, make your memma proud

3977		Aug 24 2017 7:00AM	Dr. William McSherry	<p>I'm appalled by the North Carolina legislature engaging in what several courts determined is racial gerrymandering. Racial gerrymandering is tantamount to white supremacy, and I find the NC legislature's ongoing efforts to suppress certain kinds of voters' rights to be a blatant form of racial discrimination. This behavior is worse than the ugly demonstrators shouting hate in Charlottesville and elsewhere, because it's systemic and official. Legislatures are supposed to uphold democratic ideals, not tear them down for partisan advantage.</p> <p>ALL citizens must be encouraged to vote because our democracy demands it, whether it suits your personal ideological agenda or not. Efforts to reduce political competition and accountability only serve to demonstrate fear and a lack of integrity on the part of those who purposefully limit voters' rights. If you truly believe your political agenda merits consideration, then you should tell the people your policy goals and let the voters decide what they want. To do anything else is cowardly and distinctly un-American.</p>
3978		Aug 24 2017 7:00AM	Jonathan Holt	<p>I am very troubled and disappointed by the new maps, particularly the way they have been drawn up. Going back to the same consultant who drew up the maps that the courts have said are unconstitutional is not acceptable. Undemocratic supermajorities propped up by radical gerrymandering done behind closed doors are wrong, no matter which party is the beneficiary. Every citizen in our state deserves to be represented by a legitimately elected state senator and house member who are accountable to the people. It is time to take the politics out of the maps by handing this job over to a non-partisan or at the very least bipartisan commission.</p>
3979		Aug 24 2017 7:01AM	Mr. Kicab Castaneda-Mendez	<p>Releasing the maps and information on the redrawn districts maps so late and so last-minute on the day before public hearings disrespects all the people of the state. We need time to study and respond to them. You have not given us our due. This last-minute release maneuver smacks of dishonesty and secrecy and a lack of openness, which is a disgrace for public officials paid for with public dollars. The current maps are clearly an example of partisan gerrymandering and it gets the same results that we had with the old maps. According to a recent analysis by the nonpartisan Campaign Legal Center, the new redistricting plan will give a substantial boost to Republicans. This is again the legislature being guilty of being partisan gerrymandering. These maps will allow the elected officials to select their voters, instead of voters selecting their representatives in government. Per Campaign Legal Center's senior legal counsel, "Assuming a statewide uniform swing in the vote, in order for there to be a Republican majority in the House, Republicans will only need a statewide vote of 45.7%. By contrast, a Democratic statewide vote share of 54.8% will be needed to secure a Democratic majority in the House. This is asymmetrical, and evidences a severe bias in favor of Republican voters." This is totally unacceptable.</p>
3980		Aug 24 2017 7:07AM	Mr. Tom Mould	<p>Does this map uphold our most sacred and fundamental democratic right, to a free and fair election?</p> <p>I respectfully ask that you consider one question: if you were on the other side of this argument, would you vote for this map? Take every advantage that currently favors Republicans and tip it towards the Democrats. Would you vote for it? Another way to consider this is to step into the shoes of Democrats. Assume they are as committed to tipping the scales in their favor as you are. Would you approve it? If the answer is no, then your answer should be clear. Simply put, you cannot in good conscience, if you truly uphold your office to fairly represent the people of NC, vote for this map.</p> <p>If winning at all costs is your bottom line, then we are all lost. But if upholding our democratic ideals and giving everyone a chance to be heard, to have their vote truly count, then please reconsider this map and draw one that ensures no one has a monopoly on our democracy, not right, not left, no one. It must remain a democracy of the people. Right now, it is not.</p>
3981		Aug 24 2017 7:11AM	Mr. Dennis Brown	<p>The redistricting map and supporting data released is an extreme disappointment to me. It would not result in fair elections. It demonstrates that his process can not be trusted to those who were elected by unfair districting in the first place. The process is a blatant example of conflicts of interest from those who are seeking to preserve the power they got illegitimately. The only fair solution is for a color and politically blind neutral third party to create the initial maps. That way it would not matter who is in power.</p>
3982		Aug 24 2017 7:14AM	Laura Wetsch	<p>The cynicism and dishonesty reflected in the new maps is simply breathtaking. Do you people really care so little for the rule of law and fundamental fairness? I hope you all get ripped a new one when you next face the federal court, and that the court finally takes it out of your hands and appoints a special master.</p>

3983		Aug 24 2017 7:23AM	Mr. Mark Granville	<p>Partisan driven redistricting from either side constitutes politicians picking their voters, as opposed to the Founding Fathers goal of representative democracy where voters pick their politicians. Gerrymandering isn't the way to go for any of us and is destructive for our country. I strongly encourage you to change the redistricting approach to a nonpartisan redrawing as recommended by Common Cause NC - information here. Thank you.</p> <p>Mark Granville</p> <p>http://www.commoncause.org/states/north-carolina/</p>
3984		Aug 24 2017 7:29AM	Mr. RONALD DE SHON	The Republican Party strategy for states has been to gerrymander voting districts in a way that gives republicans a huge advantage over democratic party voters in the voting districts they draw up. This is not the way a democracy is supposed to work. The courts have sided with fairness and have ordered state legislators to re-draw their voting districts to show equitable distribution of voters in each. You have to do the right thing and open up fairness to all voters in our state.
3985		Aug 24 2017 7:34AM	Kathryn Pezzi	This redistricting attempt was a sham. The redistricting process must be open, avoid racial or partisan gerrymandering, and allow voters to pick our political representatives, not the other way around. I am disgusted that Republicans waited until the last minute to "unveil" a seriously flawed "new" districting map that does little to change the gerrymandered districts from the previous one. Did you honestly think this would go unnoticed? Please try again and this time make an honest effort.
3986		Aug 24 2017 7:36AM	Dr. Karen Ziegler	All citizens in North Carolina deserve a vote and a voice. It is a crime and a shame that the supermajority, which does not represent the majority of our citizens, continue the power grab. You are bullies and you are ramming bills down our throats which make us want to vomit. You are destroying our state. I implore you to play fair. The districts need to be redrawn by a bipartisan committee.
3987		Aug 24 2017 7:37AM	Ms. Ulana Stuart	You need to do the right thing by being a true American. This means guaranteeing the basic right to vote for all citizens whether they are Democrat, Republica. Black. White etc
3988		Aug 24 2017 7:51AM	Mrs. Linda Seligman	I am very disappointed that practically the same partisan outcome was the result of the Republican party's efforts to comply with the court's ruling. You all know this is unfair and designed to keep a Republican super majority. This needs to be changed. It is unAmerican to disenfranchise such a high percentage of voters from representation. Please do the morally right thing and make districting fair to all!! Get a nonpartisan map team!!!! Then you'll be of the right side of history for both North Carolinians and Americans approval. I teach small children and even they know what's fair when they see it!
3989		Aug 24 2017 7:58AM	Dr. Kathleen Hayden	I am disappointed with the general assembly but I am not surprised. The racial gerrymandering that has been implemented - and continues to be implemented with these new maps- amounts to nothing more than the antics of a group of white supremacists. You cannot deny the changing demographics of the US and of North Carolina. This will not stand. Why are you afraid of being fair with your constituents? You represent all of us, do you not?
3990		Aug 24 2017 8:00AM	Mrs. Robin Jenkins	Partisan redistricting is just as unacceptable as racially biased redistricting. Citizens who lose their voice in government lose faith in government and the NCGA is responsible for growing cynicism in NC. It's time for the citizens of NC to regain their voices in state government, reduce polarization, and give the people back the power to choose their representatives. We are paying attention. Do the right thing and redraw these districts so that we all have a voice in our government and let's fix this process so that we don't need to endure blatant political power grabs like this in the future. A nonpartisan committee for redistricting or the equivalent would be a big step forward for NC. Do not rehire the consultants that were used for the last two attempts at new maps, they have proven themselves unable to
3991		Aug 24 2017 8:01AM	Mrs. Karen Scheidler	I object to the redrawn maps released this week. They need to be drawn by a non-partisan group.
3992		Aug 24 2017 8:04AM	Mrs. Jean Link	<p>Districts should</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) be compact and keep communities together 2) comply with the Voting Rights Act 3) be nonpartisan by ignoring political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps
3993		Aug 24 2017 8:06AM	Myrna Doernberg	The redistricting maps as presently drawn allows elected officials to select their voters. That is not the way our democracy works. Our system can only function as it was designed if voters select their representatives. Creating a map in which 10 of 50 Senate districts and 19 of 120 House district are likely to be competitive is blatantly gerrymandering and not democratic.

3994		Aug 24 2017 8:11AM	Mr. Kevin Brock	<p>One of the charges against King George III listed in the Declaration of Independence was that he denied the right of representation in the legislature to large groups of people. The Constitution of the United States guarantees to the people the right to vote, and notes in the 9th amendment the existence of rights not enumerated in the Constitution, which are retained by the people. The Constitution of the state of North Carolina guarantees the people free and FAIR elections.</p> <p>I contend that radical partisan gerrymandering denies large groups of North Carolina citizens the right to representation in the legislature and fair elections. Such gerrymandering makes the right to vote null and void, when the outcome of elections does not reflect the will of the electorate.</p> <p>The only Constitutional way forward is to establish an independent redistricting commission, drawing from successful models in states like Idaho, Montana, Hawaii, and New Jersey. This commission should establish district boundaries for seats in Congress and the General Assembly.</p> <p>I urge you to adopt this immediately, by amending the State Constitution, so the people can approve this in 2018.</p>
3995		Aug 24 2017 8:14AM	Emma Anderson	<p>Districts should</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) be compact and keep communities together 2) comply with the Voting Rights Act 3) be nonpartison by ignoring political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps.
3996		Aug 24 2017 8:20AM	Ms. Carol Pahl	<p>I believe that any redistricting map should be drawn by a bi-partisan committee. Common Cause has a map that should be considered as it was created by a bi-partisan group.</p> <p>Any map should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) be compact and keep communities together 2) comply with the Voting Rights Act 3) be non-partison by ignoring political information like voter registration data, past election results or where incumbents live when drawing maps.
3997		Aug 24 2017 8:24AM	Dr. Christine Haynes	<p>Dear State Representatives and Senators,</p> <p>I am a resident of North Carolina (in central Charlotte). I am writing in response to the General Assembly's reconsideration of voting districts in the state, following the court-ordered re-drawing of maps. In my view, the recently released maps do not go nearly far enough in ensuring fair voting in the state. Given that they were drawn by the same consultant who drew the previous maps, voters may not have confidence that they do not continue to favor the party in power and constitute political as well as racial gerry-mandering.</p> <p>To alleviate any hint of favoritism in districting, I urge the legislature to pass a measure (such as the one proposed by State Senator Jeff Jackson) to have the voting map drawn by an independent, bipartisan commission. Both sides have wrongly abused the current system in the past. Going forward, it is essential to the health of our democracy that we resolve this problem and ensure fair voting and representation for all citizens of our state.</p> <p>Thank you in advance for seriously considering these comments.</p> <p>Sincerely yours, Christine Haynes 1725 Chestnut Ave. Charlotte, NC 28205</p>
3998		Aug 24 2017 8:25AM	joy Smith	<p>Since the NC Legislature made a point to attempt to keep the vast majority of the district for Republicans, the maps show this prejudice. Whether by race or by voting records, this is a partisan view of creating fair maps and discriminatory. One example I experience, these and the last maps divide the city of Asheville into two different district one section linked by a small line to a largely republican district. This makes both parts of Asheville most likely getting Republican representation when Asheville is a largely democratic city. Try again and make fair maps, draw straight lines, the people will watch what you do, especially now.</p>
3999		Aug 24 2017 8:25AM	Ms. Holly Mason	<p>I am opposed to the legeslative redistriction plan proposed by the GOP.This is gerimandering, and gives an unfair advantage to republicans, and under represents the voices of minorities, and hte disadvantaged.</p>
4000		Aug 24 2017 8:27AM	Ms. Diane Wynne	<p>90% of the new General Assembly districts are solidly tilted to favor one party or another – mostly to the advantage of the Republican mapmakers.</p> <p>With these new maps, you continue to rig our elections, reduce competition, and protect yourselves from being held accountable for your actions in Raleigh. we won't settle for "taxation without representation."</p>

4001		Aug 24 2017 8:28AM	Mrs. Jessica Marshall	I am asking for a process that draws political district maps in a way that is fair and open, avoids racial or partisan gerrymandering, and allows voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around. I urge the N.C. General Assembly to support an independent redistricting process that follows those guiding principles.
4002		Aug 24 2017 8:28AM	Mrs. Elizabeth McIntyre	It is baffling to me that NC GA would shit on democracy so much and wont agree to a bipartisan committee to draft the new districts. This is a note to tell you WE the people of NC are watching and will hold you accountable.
4003		Aug 24 2017 8:30AM	Margot Ammidown	This is not Democracy! What a sad admission that the only way you can win is by cheating. Voting districts should be drawn along strainght line, county boundaries and roadways. No cherry picking of voters.
4004		Aug 24 2017 8:33AM	Ms. Elinor Landess	To the Members of our General Assembly, It is time for unbiased redistricting. Most NC voters believe that an independent body (not the consulting firm that drew the 2011 maps) should be redrawing our maps. We deserve an open and transparent process so that we, the voters, the people you who all represent, have our voices present. As you know, 90% of your redrawn districts are still gerrymandered to give the Republican party a partisan advantage. It is shocking to me that you could do this in good conscience. I love North Carolina for its diversity of views. Since 2011, we haven't been able to see or hear that diversity. Appoint an independent commission to redraw these maps without gerrymandered districts. Do your job. Be better. Represent us better.
4005		Aug 24 2017 8:36AM	Anthony DiBernardo	The new legislative maps are still gerrymandered. I call for non-partisan redistricting ... I repeat NON PARTISAN redistricting!
4006		Aug 24 2017 8:38AM	Mr. Lars Simonsen	Redistricting must be done in a fair manner. Prior maps have been determined to be racially discriminatory. The legislature needs to prove that it is not implementing racist policies by proposing and adopting maps that are fair and representative of the local communities. For many reasons, the legislature has lost the trust of many North Carolina citizens. Elevate the interest of the State of North Carolina above the interests of the most extreme wing of the republican party.
4007		Aug 24 2017 8:46AM	Eric Smith	This is why people are fed up with politics and the political process, why citizens are jaded and don't want to engage with the business of running their own state. The people in power rig the system so their team can 'win', as if elections were just another meaningless contest like a reality show or sporting event. What if our politicians actually started to prioritize fairness and justice instead of tribal gains? What would it be like to have people of integrity running our state, our country?
4008		Aug 24 2017 8:51AM	Mr. James Herrmann	You need to legislate the use of a computer algorithm that creates districts with the smallest perimeter while still including the correct number of voters. That makes for compact districts to campaign on, and removes the nolitical process.
4009		Aug 24 2017 8:51AM	Catherine Palmer	I am extraordinarily disappointed by the proposed redistricting maps, as they follow the same illegal and immoral gerrymandering as the previous maps. These maps unconstitutionally skew citizens' votes to favor whites and Republicans, wrenching the right to fair and equal representation away from many of our NC citizens, and furthering the systemic oppression of people of color. I was disappointed to learn that the 2011 maps were used as a benchmark of success when drawing the new maps (the 2011 maps were ruled unconstitutional), and that the Legislature chose to work with the SAME consultant who drew the illegal maps that the Supreme Court threw out in June of 2017. The representatives in the NCGA have an obligation to serve their people, so do that. We are sick and tired of you manipulating us and wasting time on political games when there is real work to be done in our state. A concerned citizen, Catherine T Palmer
4010		Aug 24 2017 8:54AM	Ms. Tina White	More evidence of a government that has lost touch with the heart of our Constitution: "We the People". Is this the government my ancestors gave their lives for? Please ... adopt non-partisan redistricting standards. You are destroying our Constitution.
4011		Aug 24 2017 9:03AM	Mr. Marc Pendergast	We need a non-partisan group/panel/committee to draw up the legislative district maps. Neither of the two major parties can or should be trusted to do it. The temptation to draw the maps to favor themselves is far too great. The point of the General Assembly is to REPRESENT the people of this great state. There is no current representation of the people, there's a power grab by the party currently in power to continue that power for as long as possible, regardless of whether they have the competency to even be trusted with that power. The current General Assembly has made a mockery of democracy and is a blight upon this state. History shows that the Democrats were not much better when they were in power. Enabling a non-partisan group to draw reasonable and ethical maps will keep both of the major parties from abusing their power and, hopefully, guaranteeing a continued democracy for those that are left to deal with the fallout. The continued gerrymandering of this state means that there is no accountability for those in power. If there's no accountability, there is certainly no representation. It seems as though we're just one small step away from a state dictatorship.

4012		Aug 24 2017 9:06AM	Mr. edward dease	<p>These maps are as gerrymandered as the last set of maps the Republicans have been putting forward. This is just another form of voter suppression and an attempt to hold onto control of the state legislature house and senate. These maps represent the bigoted views of those who drew them.</p> <p>It is time for North Carolina to move forward fair maps for everybody in all districts everywhere with everybody who has the right to vote having equal access to the voting booth</p>
4013		Aug 24 2017 9:07AM	Mr. Charles Keeling	<p>The Republican-led effort to "un-gerrymander" unconstitutional districts is a failure and a farce. The new districts are almost as bad as the old ones in terms of the partisan advantage they confer on the Republican party, and the continuing influence of partisan map-drawing consultant Hofeller is unmistakable. The current redistricting proposal does not correct the problem noted by the courts in rejecting the old maps, and in fact does literally as little as possible in that direction. My confidence in the constitutionality of North Carolina's voting districts will not be restored until they are re-drawn yet again by either a truly non-partisan commission or else by the court itself.</p>
4014		Aug 24 2017 9:11AM	Mrs. Joyce Engelmann	<p>Still not a fair map. North Carolina needs Democracy restored. Down with oppression.</p>
4015		Aug 24 2017 9:12AM	Mrs. Barbara Glatthorn	<p>On Tuesday (8/22/17), I attended the redistricting hearing at Beaufort County Community College in Washington and listened intently to speakers across the state who stated and reiterated my personal view that the current redistricting map is seriously flawed. First, it is flawed as a result of a flawed process. I was angered to discover that I had driven all the way home from Charleston, SC, in order to attend this meeting only to discover that an "open" meeting had limited seating in a small room. Obviously your choice of an inconvenient time led you to think attendance would be small. Your tactics are so blatantly obvious that I am amazed you have no shame in the public eye. Second, the present map remains gerrymandered, created by an expert(the same expert who created the first map discounted by the courts). Do the right thing and create an unbiased committee of logistions not legislatures who can create an unbiased map based on representation rather than on political retention. If you cannot do this, I trust the courts will cut your faltering and fake efforts short and do the job themselves. This country is too great to be represented by politicians of your ilk who flaunt its ideals and the core concept of one man one vote.</p>
4016		Aug 24 2017 9:13AM	Mr. Henry Jarrett	<p>To Whom It May Concern</p> <p>It is time to draw fair legislative districts and end gerrymandering. Voters should choose their representatives not the other way around. Start with independent redistricting commission or let the federal courts appoint a master to do it.</p> <p>Henry Jarrett Raleigh NC</p>
4017		Aug 24 2017 9:15AM	Dr. Rachel Younger	<p>The current redistricting plan does not go far enough to dismantle racist gerrymandering. In this way, it upholds white supremacy and diminishes the voting power of African-American North Carolinians. I recommend consulting mathematician Moon Duchin's research on gerrymandering to create new and fair maps.</p>
4018		Aug 24 2017 9:18AM	Candace English	<p>We demand fair legislative district maps. End North Carolina's shame. Stop gerrymandering please. Let's have a fair elections in North Carolina.</p>
4019		Aug 24 2017 9:19AM	Mr. David Gardner	<p>Aside from racist gerrymandering, I believe the maps violate the "one man one vote" principle that is central to our democracy. My math abilities aren't too sophisticated, but looking at the pitiful Democratic representation in NC, I believe it doesn't even rise to the level of 3/5ths of a person that was originally assigned to numbers of Blacks in a state. Under the 3/5ths rule, Democrats would actually done better! Partisan politics in a given, but this in effect disenfranchises most of the one third of NC citizens who are Democrats. How that is Constitutional I can't understand.</p>
4020		Aug 24 2017 9:21AM	Ms. LARA TAYLOR	<p>Gerrymandering is cheating. Win votes by prioritizing your constituents over corporate and donor interests. Enough with the cheating and corruption.</p>
4021		Aug 24 2017 9:26AM	Mrs. Emily Wilson	<p>It is costly in time and money to keep going over the same efforts to control voting districts, and I think NC should show some exceptionalism by following the example of other states in drawing up non-partisan districts. This has gone on too long under both parties, and the public is sick and tired of state government. Show some character. Redraw the maps now.</p>
4022		Aug 24 2017 9:27AM	Mr. William Perkins	<p>The new redistricting map does not resolve the issue. As it stands now (the current revision), a NC Citizen may as well not vote as the choice is already made for you with the maps drawn like they are. It appears the NC GOP need outside oversight in order to be fair and relinquish their grin on the legislative process.</p>
4023		Aug 24 2017 9:31AM	Mr. Michael Moore	<p>For our state to claim a legislative body that represents the population it is necessary for true and objective redistricting be done ASAP. This could probably best be achieved by computer algorithms based on population numbers. Anything else is a theft of our political process.</p>
4024		Aug 24 2017 9:33AM	Charles Talley	<p>Voting is a right and should be done fairly and equitably. Districts should be drawn fairly with total respect for the voters, not for incumbents or to handicap future political candidates.</p>

4025		Aug 24 2017 9:34AM	Ms. Anne Gildea	The people of NC want and deserve fair, non-partisan redistricting maps that do not favor either party. That is the ONLY way we can elect officials that truly represent our interests. We are watching very move. We really do know the difference between a fair process and one that is merely a sham to promote self interest. You were elected to serve the people, not your own interests. It is time to man up and do that!
4026		Aug 24 2017 9:34AM	Mr. Brendan Younger	I am completely opposed to the efforts of Republican legislators to draw electoral districts which clearly favor their party. My ability to elect the candidate of my choice is severely curtailed. This is a fundamental denial of equal protection under the law. I cannot trust the legislature to represent my interests if my elected officials are sure of their own reelection; instead, they represent those people and corporations that give freely to campaigns or offer other perks to officials once they leave office. I hope that at least a few of the current state lawmakers desire to serve the people of North Carolina and I hope they will have the courage to reject the current and proposed maps so as to be more accountable to individual voters rather than monied interests and
4027		Aug 24 2017 9:38AM	Mr. Winthrop Southworth	North Carolina certainly does not have a good historical record justice-wise -- from slavery to the Jim Crow era and beyond. There are many admirable considerations about our beautiful state; e.g., it's rich ecological diversity and opportunities to enjoy nature and rich educational benefits. We can and we must improve our political system to be fair and just for everyone and establish enduring redistricting maps throughout our state via a totally nonpartisan commission that is committed to a totally fair voting system. Let's show the rest of our nation that our voting system is not a joke but rather evidence of a solidly just system.
4028		Aug 24 2017 9:41AM	Mr. Richard Branda	Tom Ross and an impartial committee redrew the maps with 13 districts. 6 they said favored republicans 3 favored democrats and 4 were neutral. These maps should be the starting place and the same committee should draw the Rest of the mans
4029		Aug 24 2017 9:44AM	Ms. Cathy Cole	I am extremely distressed and concerned about the new redistricting maps. Once again, you have structured these new maps to disenfranchise Black voters. These maps are not acceptable and need to be redrawn.
4030		Aug 24 2017 9:47AM	Mr. Ernest Hahn	Many Carolinians believe that the State's Republican party is hell bent on maintaining their supermajorities in the General Assembly at any cost. If true, I believe the GOP's actions, especially with regards to legislative redistricting, are quite shameful. I believe redistricting maps should be drawn, not by lawmakers and consultants and their fancy mapping software, but by an independent and bipartisan body as demonstrated last year when a panel of retired judges created a series of sample maps. Every sport needs a referee; politics more so than any other sport.
4031		Aug 24 2017 9:47AM	Mrs. Rina DiGioia	After looking at the redistricting maps I feel I was in a maze. I hope the appeals judge will do the right thing and throw this out. This state is equally divided between Republican and Democrat why are we missing with our voting districts? Can anyone answer this?
4032		Aug 24 2017 9:51AM	Ms. Loveeta Baker	It's time for rational, logical, reasonable maps. Districts shouldn't be devised to maximize one party's favor. You know this. What are the lawful reasons to change districts' boundaries? I was born in and love NC, but right now what's happening in Raleigh is an embarrassment.
4033		Aug 24 2017 9:52AM	Ms. Marni Goldshlag	I am here today because I feel strongly that the legislature, which was elected from gerrymandered districts which the courts have declared illegal, should not be the body redrawing the districts. I don't believe that this legislature will draw maps which are any more fair than the old ones. This is especially true because they are using the same map maker and clearly have partisan goals in mind. These legislators have used unlawful gerrymandered maps to win elections in 2012, 2014 and 2016. They have spent millions of tax payers dollars defending these bad maps in court while writing terrible laws and being totally unaccountable for their actions. Enough is enough!!! It is time that NC have districts which are drawn fairly, without racial or partisan bias. It's time for our districts to allow competition for the legislative seats. It's time for the legislature to stop playing these games and for the court to take this process over.
4034		Aug 24 2017 9:53AM	Ms. Nancy Forrest	Ultimately, it's time for a non-partisan commission to be the entity to As a voter in North Carolina, I demand that the voting districts be redraw in a fair and reasonable manner.

4035		Aug 24 2017 9:56AM	Ms. S Teresa McBennett	As a lifelong resident of NC, I am disappointed in the current attempt to continue the partisan redistricting. I have a constitutional right to vote for someone to represent me in the NCGA. Unfortunately, the current and the newly redrawn districts do not give me that right, they continue to allow our governing body to pick their voters so that they remain in power. This is not the face of democracy. Please do the right thing and draw non-partisan districts.
4036		Aug 24 2017 9:59AM	Dr. Victoria Shea	<p>I would like to record my opinion that although the proposed maps are superficially prettier than the existing maps, the partisan ugliness underneath is still obvious.</p> <p>Maps should not be drawn to protect incumbents – particularly since it’s been determined that many current incumbents come from unconstitutional districts.</p> <p>Maps should not permit politicians to choose their voters instead of allowing voters to choose their government.</p> <p>Maps should not use partisan registration or previous partisan election results to determine boundaries.</p> <p>Maps should be drawn by an independent, non-partisan staff using non-partisan and legal criteria.</p> <p>I think the use of partisan criteria, although sadly quite common, is unethical. I also think many legislators actually know this – they are just going to do this because they think they can get away with it. But the people are watching, and the courts are watching, and I hope blatant partisan gerrymandering will soon be declared unconstitutional.</p>
4037		Aug 24 2017 10:07AM	Ms. cheryl whittaker	While I am not a constituent of NC, I live in a heavily gerrymandered portion of Pennsylvania, and know this to be a toxic practice that means that every vote does NOT count. For the sake of this country, I ask for fairness for every voter.
4038		Aug 24 2017 10:07AM	Dora Owens	I am appalled that gerrymandering districts by political party is legal. In an attempt to ensure political party power, the use of gerrymandering means that a significant portion of the citizenry have no real voice in their own government. There is enough computing power available to create a district map that relies solely on populations numbers; please use this process to redraw the districts in a fair, non-partisan way.
4039		Aug 24 2017 10:08AM	Mr. Dan Campion	<p>The fact that North Carolina Republicans (NC GOP: Worst of the Worst) continue to suppress the voting rights of people of color in this state despite the courts consistently shooting down their gerrymandering efforts is reprehensible.</p> <p>They obviously think that we, their constituents, are unaware of their tactics and ignorant of the Democratic process.</p>
4040		Aug 24 2017 10:09AM	Mrs. Anne Wood	Please make the redistricting maps fair. They should not be base on racial numbers or political party registration but on numbers of people. The lines should be drawn in the most closely bound areas possible,,not stretched out along a path in order to make up some imaginary configuration of a group pf particular people. We want our votes to count. We are in danger of losing the effectiveness of individual votes if you do;t make the lines fair , cols blind and politically blind.
4041		Aug 24 2017 10:11AM	Dr. Stephen Boyd	The time between when the leadership of the NC Assembly released the re-drawn legislative districts (Sunday, August 20) and when it scheduled hearings for public comment (August 22) manifests a dismissive contempt of NC citizens that further undermines the credibility of the legislature and the peoples' faith in the democratic process. The legislature has known for over a year that it would most likely have to draw new maps, but waited to release them, giving the public less than 48 hours to study them. In addition, the leadership provided no information about party affiliation or race in the new district with which to analyze the new maps. Most members of the current legislature were elected with unconstitutional electoral districts. This has been a disingenuous process; it should, therefore, come as no surprise if the legislature is increasing seen and responded to as
4042		Aug 24 2017 10:13AM	Jennifer Johnson	Ensure that due process of law and objective non-partisan drawing of districts is performed. The new maps were created by the Gerrymandered general assembly GOP in secrecy (who have no interest in a fair system), without openness to underlying data, with minimum ability for the public to comment. This reeks of unfair political gerrymandered districts (again) by the GOP in NC which are counter to American laws and values, and thus counter to our democracy. Create fair districts with a fair body that is representative of the people of this state. We the people deserve representation by OUR government. Fix it correctly. If you are truly representative - the people will re-elect you fairly. This is how democracy works.
4043		Aug 24 2017 10:16AM	Dr. Lawrence Morse	<p>Gentlepersons,</p> <p>Democracy thrives when there elections take place within the context of fairly drawn district lines. The simplest way to ensure fair district lines is to have the lines drawn by a non-partisan committee that works toward two criteria: compact districts with minimal dividing of juristictions. Besides being anti-democratic partisan districts result in the waste of public treasure in fighting law suits.</p>

4044		Aug 24 2017 10:17AM	brandy sullivan	I demand fair maps for our constituents. We're watching every move you make. Not backing down & not going away! You represent us! Do your jobs and fix gerrymandered maps.
4045		Aug 24 2017 10:21AM	Margaret Harris	To be fair to both parties, the districts should be drawn by an INDEPENDENT commission!!
4046		Aug 24 2017 10:29AM	Mrs. Michelle Swart	One person one vote! The Electoral Integrity Project, led by UNC-Chapel Hill political scientist Andrew Reynolds, is a nonpartisan project that grades democracies worldwide on a 100-point scale. The ratings are based on multiple factors including districting. The EIP has measured 213 elections in 153 countries and is widely accepted as the most accurate method for evaluating how free and fair democratic elections are. For the last election, the EIP concluded that the state of North Carolina had the least democratic redistricting in the world. North Carolina is the worst entity ever analyzed by the Electoral Integrity Project. Our score was a horrific 7/100. No democracy in the world outside of the U.S. allows the elected politicians to draw the lines, and neither should we. Respect for fair elections is not a partisan issue. Democrats and Republicans alike want the opportunity to be represented in their legislature. We need to implement an independent commission to define voting districts as soon as humanly possible to recover democracy in North Carolina. =====
4047		Aug 24 2017 10:31AM	Dr. Susan Weaver	== The first step to recovery is self-awareness. Practically we need to address the institutional failures which have cost us our democratic ranking – districting, equal access to the vote and the abuse of legislative power. An independent commission is the sine-qua-non of democratic districting (no democracy in the world outside of the U.S. allows the elected politicians to draw the lines). Voter registration and poll access should make voting as easy as possible and never be skewed in favor of any one section of society. Last, elected officials need to respect the core principles of democracy – respect the will of the voters, all the voters and play the game with integrity. Respect for democracy is not a partisan issue. In America true
4048		Aug 24 2017 10:31AM	Lisa Zerkle	The new redistricting maps are very poor. They produce competitive races for only 15 of the 170 legislative seats. This gives free options for legislators to do the bidding of lobbyists rather than work for the good of the people. The person(s) at the top of the heap get to call the shots as they are negotiating with lobbyists for the big bucks. The best people do not run because they cannot represent their voters because they have to back the leadership or lose backing for re-election. Voters do not vote because there is no point. Please bring back our democracy. Do not support these redistricting maps.
4049		Aug 24 2017 10:34AM	Lonna Harkrader	Dear General Assembly- I urge you to adopt non-partisan redistricting. Your 8/17 redrawing of voting districts still heavily favors Republican lawmakers. We live in a diverse, swing state and your maps do not reflect this. My current lawmakers are in iron clad districts and as such, do not listen or care about half of the electorate. Their only concern is being primaried from the far right. This perpetuates dangerous and extreme division in our state and country and amounts to disenfranchisement for Independents and Democrats. Please put the wellbeing of our state ahead of party politics.

4050		Aug 24 2017 10:37AM	Taylor Cooke	<p>Thank you for the time and opportunity to speak this evening. I wasn't surprised in the new maps that were recently drawn in response to the request by the courts. I expected them to be unfair and not representative of our population since the author of them is the same author who drew illegal and unfair maps in 2011. Would you be surprised by a thief who steals or a liar who lies? Of course not. The main problem sits with those who choose to put the thief in charge of protecting the bank.</p> <p>My disappointment lies with those who gave the responsibility of drawing fair maps to those who have proven incapable of doing so. NC Republicans are not interested in fair maps. They are not interested in a representative democracy. They are solely interested in taking and retaining power. Their interests are not shared by their constituents. As our nation's courts have repeatedly confirmed, NC Republicans consistently draw unfair and illegal maps. For some reason, they continue to be involved in the process of redrawing the maps despite the fact that they can't stop breaking the law when they do it. Why would we ask them to do something they aren't interested in, and don't have the capacity for doing?</p> <p>We are a so-called purple state. In the past 10 yrs, we have voted for Senators, Governors, and Presidents from each major party. Yet, Republicans currently hold supermajorities in both houses of our General Assembly. The only explanation is illegal and unfair maps drawn by our current crop of Republicans. What's more, since the maps are illegal, it is fair to say that many of our state representatives should not even be in office, much less have a say in how these maps are drawn. But here we are, letting the thieves choose how the bank is guarded yet again. Why do we continue to let the fox guard the henhouse? Our state will not progress and solve problems if we don't have fairly selected representatives working on our behalf.</p>
4051		Aug 24 2017 10:45AM	Anne Fondren	<p>112 House members and 42 state senators essentially have tailor-made districts.</p> <p>Voting analysts watching the results say that most of these districts will lean Republican, even though North Carolina as a whole is very balanced. As of Aug. 19, of the state's 6,777,881 registered voters, 2,640,045 are Democrats; 2,054,423 are Republicans; and 2,050,096 are unaffiliated. The redrawn maps are CROOKED!</p>
4052		Aug 24 2017 10:49AM	Mr. Liam Hooper	<p>Unlike many of my peers, I do not expect to alter your perspectives or decisions. I do, however, wish to put you on notice: we see you; we are watching and speaking out what we see. Many of us on the ground see you, as a body, for who and what you are -- a body rooted in Madisonian colonialism, racism, and exploitative capitalism. We will not tolerate a return to plantation politics writ larger. We will not tolerate back-room politics aimed at protecting the opulent minority from us, the people, and our desire for a just, egalitarian, progressive society where all are cared for and none are excluded and left behind. Your ruling-class self-interest reaches beyond party and we see it. Your old-South racism is bold and we see it. Your continual use of divisiveness, competitive diversity, and done-in-the-dark self-protectionism will not be tolerated.</p> <p>We will continue to incite the people to see you for who and what you are. We will continue to work for your removal. We will continue to call you out on your racism, classism, misogyny, and your lies and divisive tactics.</p> <p>Hiring the same man to re-draw the districts was unacceptable. Your disregard for the higher courts (reminiscent of tactics employed during desegregation) is unacceptable. Your disregard for the people of NC is unacceptable. You are out of order and unacceptable. Your puffed-up belief we are all too stupid to see what you are doing, your belief the courts that compel you are too stupid to see, represent your own old-South, last gasping self-delusion.</p> <p>You are compelled -- and expected -- to comply with the ruling that your district lines were racially motivated in racist self-interest and correct the problem. You are compelled to create a fair system of assigning districts that prevent gerrymandering on either side, are independent, and are equitable. We will publicly hold you to this task. We are not going away. And we are watching you. More, as you have shown yourselves unable to serve the people, your days are numbered.</p> <p>North Carolina has a shameful record of gerrymandering. It must stop, for the good of _all_ citizens. Otherwise, democracy itself suffers deeply and its very survival is put in jeopardy.</p> <p>I summon you to heed the call of justice, not of political manipulation. And I am sure that many, many of our fellow citizens wish the same for our state.</p>
4053		Aug 24 2017 10:50AM	Dr. Stephen Fleck	<p>North Carolina has a shameful record of gerrymandering. It must stop, for the good of _all_ citizens. Otherwise, democracy itself suffers deeply and its very survival is put in jeopardy.</p> <p>I summon you to heed the call of justice, not of political manipulation. And I am sure that many, many of our fellow citizens wish the same for our state.</p>
4054		Aug 24 2017 10:51AM	Mr. William McDaniel	<p>Legislative redistricting should be handled by an independent commission. It doesn't make sense to have EITHER party in complete control of the process.</p>
4055		Aug 24 2017 10:52AM	Maureen Linneman	<p>We are a country of FREE ELECTIONS for ALL. Our districts must represent the Justice for All.</p> <p>We the Citizens demand Fair Legislative Maps.!</p> <p>Maureen Linneman</p>
4056		Aug 24 2017 10:53AM	Mrs. Brittany Sandefur	<p>We need fair maps to accurately represent and defend the citizens of NC. Please remember the things that called you to state service in the first place - the desire to improve the lives of your fellow citizens, not your desire to be reelected, maintain majorities, or serve your fellow legislators and business men. Be an agent of democracy. Pursue bipartisan maps that allow us to represent ourselves. We will support you.</p>

4057		Aug 24 2017 11:01AM	Ms. Melanie Bassett	You must, yes you must, this is not an option, this your job, represent the voters of North Carolina. You are not in office to run a constant re-election campaign. Work fully, transparently, fairly, to create the most equitable voting Districts representing every North Carolinian. Voter manipulation is now out in public scrutiny.
4058		Aug 24 2017 11:04AM	Mrs. Morgan Blue	I object to the to the partisan approach that is being currently used. PLEASE, I implore you to adopt the independent commission proposed by Common Cause NC. http://www.commoncause.org/states/north-carolina/issues/gerrymandering/
4059		Aug 24 2017 11:07AM	Ms. Lindsey Grace	I am very disappointed in the ill preparedness of our governments attempts to present the newly drawn maps to the public. Not only was the public only given a matter of days notice of these public hearings, the places holding hearings could hardly accommodate the amount of people who came to express their opinions of the newly drawn districts, many diverted into overflow rooms where they could not hear the proceedings. North Carolinians deserve to be heard and included in the process, especially after we have been failed by the previous map drawers. I am also dissapointed the same people who drew the maps that were determined to be bad, were allowed to work on the maps again this time. While there are some small changes, and minor improvements, the maps, as drawn today, will not accurately or fairly represent the majority of North Carolinians. As I stated in a previous comment, I do not think Tom Hofeller should be involved in North Carolina's map making process any longer, or ever again. As I see it now, some may seem represented but they are not; what's the point in a state motto if our state doesn't live up to it?
4060		Aug 24 2017 11:09AM	Ms. Mary Ann Lochner	Use the plan recommended by the panel of retired judges. It appears to address partisan redistricting. When half of the voters in the state are registered Democrats and we have super Republican majorities in both bodies, it is shameful. Would be if the opposite were true as well. It goes without saying that redistricting based on race is unlawful and disgusting. Shame on the NC Republicans.
4061		Aug 24 2017 11:10AM	Ms. Holly Adkisson	To my thinking, each citizen's vote should carry equal weight. Until partisan priorities are removed from the redistricting process, I cannot see this happening. I therefore strongly support a nonpartisan body be brought together to draw new district maps for North Carolina.
4062		Aug 24 2017 11:11AM	Mrs. Anne Craig	Districts need to be drawn on a non-partisan basis, not by people are will promote the interests of one political party over another, or racial, ethnic group over another. I have been outraged that my small city, Asheville, was chopped up into two congressional districts for purely partisan reasons. The committee that draws districts should be completely non-partisan. Thank you.
4063		Aug 24 2017 11:13AM	Mr. Dimitri Velednitsky	I understand that the ruling you can make is only based on whether gerrymandering disenfranchises a specific race, but gerrymandering disenfranchises us all. Our representatives no longer represent us therefore the only elected body left to make these decisions is the judicial one. Be the check you were designed to be.
4064		Aug 24 2017 11:13AM	Ms. Donna Dyer	As a resident of Durham, we get chopped up into all sorts of crazy districts in an effort to reduce our influence in NCGA. Please create districts that are fair and proportional and don't seek to protect all Rs and make all Ds vulnerable. Please use the districts that Judge Tom Ross's group came up with. They are fair!
4065		Aug 24 2017 11:14AM	Evelyn Durmaz	A new poll shows that four out of five North Carolina voters (80%) say it's not fair for politicians to draw their own districts. That includes 85% of Democrats, 74% of Republicans, 80% of independents, 70% of Trump supporters and 80% of African Americans. Please draw non-biased districts so that all of our votes will count.
4066		Aug 24 2017 11:15AM	Ms. Meg Chrisler	Redistricting by racial gerrymandering cannot be allowed to exist. North Carolina needs to move forward and show its strength by being fair and unbiased. The sad history of racial discrimination and is not a legacy we should be proud of. Do the right thing.
4067		Aug 24 2017 11:18AM	Mr. Patrick Wright	North Carolina deserves house and senate districts which are representative of the state's overall demography. Allowing politicians to run the redistricting process prevents this. Instead, the state should use non-partisan statistical methods to create maps, like California does.
4068		Aug 24 2017 11:20AM	Mrs. Sandra Vermillion	It is a shame that the drawing of NC districts has to be done by partial legislators! the current redrawn districts are still not fair! There should be a committee of people not partial to winning the next election or whatever. By folks with no invested interest.
4069		Aug 24 2017 11:26AM	Ms. Andrew Olsen	112 House members and 42 state senators essentially have tailor-made districts. Voting analysts watching the results say that most of these districts will lean Republican, even though North Carolina as a whole is very balanced. As of Aug. 19, of the state's 6,777,881 registered voters, 2,640,045 are Democrats; 2,054,423 are Republicans; and 2,050,096 are unaffiliated. New maps are just as crooked as the old ones!
4070		Aug 24 2017 11:27AM	Ms. Aviva Enoch	I was really dismayed to learn that the new redistricting maps are very much like the old ones! I am a citizen who is in favor of true democracy--which is impossible with gerrymandered voting districts. The legislators of this state should be chosen by the voters, not the other way around! Please have the maps redrawn in a neutral, non-partisan manner.

4071		Aug 24 2017 11:30AM	Ms. Barbara Gibson	I am extremely concerned, frustrated, and angry at the Republican legislators of the NCGA who continue to act as though the state of North Carolina belongs to them and they can cheat and trick the residents through unfair gerrymandering of the voter maps of our state. Even though they have been legally directed by judges to change this to a fair representation, they decidedly work behind closed doors to do the opposite.
4072		Aug 24 2017 11:33AM	Mr. Kevin Koplin	<p>Meaningful hearings on re-districting depend on everyone having the necessary information in a timely manner to evaluate the proposed re-districting maps. That was not done here. That was wrong. It was also wrong to schedule the hearings at 4:00 p.m. and in a room (in Charlotte) that did not have enough chairs. Speakers were also not allowed to speak on a first come first serve basis. There was no effort to rank speakers based on when they signed up to speak.</p> <p>Everyone should be full and fairly represented in re-districting. Our state is fairly evenly balanced between Republicans and Democrats. Re-districting should reflect this. Re-districting should not be designed to protect incumbents. It should be designed to create as many competitive districts as possible. To do otherwise, is to undermine democracy. To re-district in such a partisan manner is not moral, it is not right, and it hurts our State. Without full and fair re-districting, we will continue to have divisive partisanship and extremism. Without fair re-districting, too many of our representatives will have no incentive to cooperate with one another, to respect different viewpoints, to compromise or to work together. This will hurt North Carolina.</p> <p>Other states (Iowa, California, Arizona) have made progress in minimizing partisanship in re-districting. This can be done in North Carolina starting with this re-districting process and going forward in future re-districting by passing House Bill 200.</p>
4073		Aug 24 2017 11:43AM	Ms. Mary Tharp	North Carolinians deserve an impartial districting system in which every vote counts. The latest redistricting scheme is overly partisan and does not take into consideration racial data that should be used to insure equal representation.the process of arriving at this plan did not allow sufficient transparency, time or opportunity for citizens to make their concerns heard
4074		Aug 24 2017 11:53AM	Mrs. Janis King	The actions of the NC legislature have become embarrassing and is getting national attention The voters need to be able to pick their legislators without the obstructions which the current legislators are trying to put in place. The redistricting must be done fairly without gerrymandering to account for race or political party. We deserve fair and open elections. That is our constitutional right. Do the right thing and let the maps be drawn fairly. If the republican agenda is what the people want, they will win the election If it is not what the people want, they will lose. This is how the election system was created and it needs to be upheld.
4075		Aug 24 2017 11:54AM	Ms. Judith Butts	Gerrymandering and voter suppression violate our rights and we will keep fighting until districting allows equal representation!
4076		Aug 24 2017 11:56AM	Ms. Carol Thompson	It appears the new maps don't solve the gerrymandering problem. North Carolina has the right for fair districts for a fair chance to balance the legislative body. Power grabbing by the republican party has become outrageous. Serve the people, not your warped ideology.
4077		Aug 24 2017 12:05PM	Mrs. Ellen Gaskill	Once again I am writing to request that you draw districts where there is a chance for people to make a choice. When the districts are drawn so that in 70% of them there is no contest for legislative seats something is wrong. Don't be scared of your people. Allow them to make choices that are fair

4078		Aug 24 2017 12:19PM	Mr. Patrick Shields	<p>I am disappointed that the legislature has chosen to take this opportunity to double down on its strategy of extreme gerrymandering during the construction of these new maps. While the partisan gerrymandering here is not illegal, it is shameful. This kind of anti-democratic action cannot be explained away with finger pointing or legalese and it will continue to taint this legislature and this state for many years to come.</p> <p>I know that the legislature is aware of this because I can see how the process was run: releasing maps at the eleventh hour with limited time for commentary or review. These districts directly affect my ability to participate in the democratic process of our state and they are being handled recklessly in the name of extreme partisanship. You have failed to engage the outside expertise and independent review which could cleanse the name of this state to both its citizens and the rest of the country. Maps built in a backroom and then ramrodded through can never represent the will of the people.</p> <p>I have referred to the partisanship at play here because it is so disgustingly flagrant, but I'd also like to point to the continued wielding of these maps for the suppression of voters of color. The allegation that race was not considered may seem like a neat party trick to argue in front of the Supreme Court, but it bears no weight with voters like myself. I'll leave the legal decisions up to the judges, but I can speak to the moral side of things. Allowing racial gerrymandering, regardless of intent, is tantamount to active participation in white supremacy. By taking steps to follow the Supreme Court in name only, this redistricting plan firmly chooses to support white supremacy. I am all too certain that future generations will look back at this moment as we have with so many moments of the civil rights struggle: with sadness and shame. We will wonder how a government built on great principles</p>
4079		Aug 24 2017 12:24PM	Julia Lloyd	<p>If the current districts have been ruled illegal, then the people elected using those districts are also illegal. This seems straight forward. But because greed and power are driving their attempts to protect themselves, they must be removed from the redistricting process. This is truly a non-partisan issue. Both sides, all ideologies and races agree on this... take the politicians out of the redistricting process. We are tired of politicians rigging elections to reduce competition and protect themselves from being held accountable. We demand a government of, by and for the people. (1) A new poll shows that four out of five North Carolina voters (80%) say it's not fair for politicians to draw their own districts. That includes 85% of Democrats, 74% of Republicans, 80% of independents – as well as 70% of Trump supporters and 80% of African Americans. (2) The redistricting process must be open, avoid racial or partisan gerrymandering, and allow voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around.</p>
4080		Aug 24 2017 12:25PM	Ms. Leslie Hagarty	<p>I support fair balanced maps of our voting districts and I am tired of our GOP costing the state so much money by refusing to do their jobs correctly. Fair maps and not gerrymandering is what we deserve in NC and we intend to fight until you comply. You work for us and we pay your salaries. Thank you Mrs. Ball for your attention to this matter.</p>
4081		Aug 24 2017 12:27PM	Ms. Leila Daly	<p>I am so disheartened that you, as representatives of the people, could not rise above partisan politics and support a fair and just redistricting plan instead of looking out for you own self interests. We are living in a time that it is more important than ever to encourage everyone to vote and guarantee that their votes count. It also is more important than ever that our representatives uphold the ideals of this great state and act ETHICALLY, not just to the letter of the law. This new districts are a sham. The fix is in. Gerrymandering is wrong, pleas stop messing with democracy! I appeal to you to draw lines WITHOUT regard to party. Don't we already have a legacy of white supremacy that needs repair-- not reinforced?</p>
4082		Aug 24 2017 12:30PM	Ms. aramati ishaya	<p>For the sake of all that is fair and just, let the people speak. We should pick our representatives and not the opposite.</p>
4083		Aug 24 2017 12:32PM	Mr. Tom Arnel	<p>It is a very sad situation when you create districts that are blatantly gerrymandered. There really need to be more districts with competitive races. Creating this veto proof majority for one party is truly on undemocratic. You might as well just outlaw democrats. To me that what it seems like</p>
4084		Aug 24 2017 12:40PM	Mr. Gary Kenton	<p>The new maps remain an embarrassment and an affront to democracy. Unfortunately, the Republican leadership has shown clearly that they don't care about democracy or the people of North Carolina.</p>
4085		Aug 24 2017 12:42PM	Ms. Deborah Speas	<p>The new maps are not any better than the old maps. According to the news and observer that analyzed the new maps 10 out of 50 senate seats and 19 out of 120 house seats would be competitive. These are not fair maps . You have stolen our democracy. I am a native of NC and I am deeply ashamed of our state. The people are better than this but it is obvious our legislature is not</p>
4086		Aug 24 2017 12:46PM	Mr. Norman McElvy	<p>The High Court has spoken. The current district lines are based on racial bias and are clearly intended to control the vote in favor of Republican legislators. This shows the weakness of the Republicans in that, in order to retain power, they must cheat. North Carolinians are fed up with this obvious abuse of power and we demand that legislative redistricting be based on lines that create a fair playing field. If Republican policies are so good, there should be no need to rig the system. I believe that the only answer is to establish a non partisan board to draw district maps that we can believe in.</p>

4087		Aug 24 2017 12:48PM	Dr. Vivian Chen	I object to the way the new maps have been drawn in order to heavily favor republican candidates. This is particularly unjust since the republican legislators in NC only have the power to draw these maps through gaining a majority, by means of illegally racially gerrymandered districts. The new maps need to drawn again to fairly represent ALL voters in this state, not just republicans, especially since their majority has been rule to be illegal. Draw fair maps now!
4088		Aug 24 2017 12:49PM	Dr. Paul Brinich	I am sick and tired of having our voting districts gerrymandered in ways that undermine our democracy. It doesn't matter whether it's Democrats or Republicans -- they've both used this to cement their power in the legislature . . . and to make my vote worthless. We need to remove redistricting from partisan politics NOW.
4089		Aug 24 2017 12:53PM	Ms. Erin Carrier	The new maps are not fair and are being drawn by the same legislators elected via illegal racist maps to secure their illegally gained positions. Stop cheating. If you want to win, stop gerrymandering and vote suppressing and actually create policies that earn you votes.
4090		Aug 24 2017 12:54PM	Mr. HIRAM REYNOLDS	To bring this to your attention the following is a very good definition for gerrymandering. Gerrymandering is a practice that attempts to establish a political advantage for a party or group by manipulating district boundaries to create partisan-advantaged districts. The resulting district apportionment is known as a gerrymandering. The new districts maps were a vale attempt to meet the supreme court order and you have failed. The entire process is disrespectful to the citizens and voters of this state. Gerrymandering undermines the fundamental principle of American democracy by depriving voters of a choice in who represents them. It gives the impression that what you are creating is a dictatorship and with that, why do you need voters? Fix the maps!
4091		Aug 24 2017 12:55PM	Mr. Leslie Lee	To date, the N.C. General Assembly has not seen fit to support democracy with an open and fair process to create election districts in North Carolina. I urge the assembly to turn away from its radical agenda to racially and politically subvert voters. If the assembly does not feel it can do its job, maybe it needs to create an independent, non-partisan commission to draw maps for the state.
4092		Aug 24 2017 12:56PM	Ms. Cornelia Barr	<p>I was at the public meeting at GTCC on August 22 about the newly drawn district maps but did not get a chance to speak. The proposed maps, unveiled last weekend after a secretive process, were drawn by the same legislators and the same consultant that drafted the 2011 boundaries.</p> <p>If legislators were elected under a system of unconstitutional districting, how can any action they have taken since 2011 be constitutional, let alone moral? Especially redrawing the boundaries when, as the Winston-Salem Journal states (8/23, "North Carolina legislative map favors GOP, but how much?") the legislators who are doing so have the goal of "protecting incumbents and considering how areas voted in the past."</p> <p>This self-serving manipulation is shameful. Our voting rights are the cornerstone of American civil society. We have the right to know that our vote is not going to be gerrymandered out of all meaning.</p> <p>I call on the General Assembly to reject the proposed maps as unconstitutional. We need an independent commission that will draft districts that are fair and represent the interests of the people of North Carolina.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
4093		Aug 24 2017 1:00PM	Mr. Peter Lourekas	<p>I am disappointed and disgusted with the terrible results from the redistricting plans carried out by the NC General Assembly. It is obvious that no serious attempt was made to create balanced, realistic districts that took into account the real distribution of Republican and Democratic voters and dealt with the issue of racial bias.</p> <p>The Assembly needs to redo these maps with the help of an independent mapping agency so the results do not yet again show signs of reduced party competition and favoritism for the Republican party. In a state that has an almost equal number of Republican and Democratic voters, there is no justification for a lop-sided House and Senate—as is the current status in elected representatives.</p> <p>Please listen to the voters in NC and withdraw these bogus "new" district maps and initiate an honest attempt to redraw existing districts.</p>
4094		Aug 24 2017 1:03PM	Dr. Richard Foulke	I feel strongly that redistricting needs to be done by a nonpartisan committee rather than whichever party is in the majority. Based on this belief I do not believe the republican House and Senate have fairly redrawn the districts without partisan gerrymandering and feel that the job needs to be one by the courts until such a nonpartisan committee can be established.
4095		Aug 24 2017 1:13PM	Dr. Jennifer Watson	Empower, not neutralize so ALL votes matter.
4096		Aug 24 2017 1:18PM	Mrs. Lisa Neylan	Let's not fail at this 400 year experiment in Democracy. Each of us must trust that our vote counts or the system doesn't work. All sides now and in the future deserve fair maps. Don't choose your voters, trust your voters to choose you.

4097		Aug 24 2017 1:18PM	Mr. tony Quartararo	<p>8/22/17 Redistricting Public Hearing</p> <p>A Quartararo</p> <p>Good afternoon</p> <p>When my family & I moved to NC 11 years ago we fell in love with a place we believed was the heart of the New South, a place of progress; where people valued education, the planet, civil rights, racial and social justice and a collaborative / open exchange of ideas & thoughts for the good of ALL the people.</p> <p>Sadly, we subsequently feared we have moved to a Tarheel version of the Hatfield & McCoys; where, because of what one grandfather did to another grandfather 40 years ago---- one political party felt entitled--- because they CAN, to crush the very soul of North Carolina and return to the ways of the Old South with its implicit, if not ,explicit White Supremacy</p> <p>In the Dec. Special Session, this fear was confirmed as we watched the Super Majority immorally & unethically getting even (and more) for their grandfathers—as they used phrases such as</p> <p>“it is Constitutional”,</p> <p>“It is Legal”,</p> <p>“this is what you did before”; -----</p> <p>But NEVER did I hear</p> <p>“This will help people”,</p> <p>“This will make our State better”,</p>
4098		Aug 24 2017 1:24PM	Mrs. Sharon Boyle-Woods	<p>I am disgusted with both parties, NC has devolved to a “Lord of the Flies” scenario, with the Super Majority picking on the weak and marginalized.</p> <p>I am disgusted with a gerrymandering & voter suppression that allows an illegal & immoral skewed supermajority to exist which steam rolls</p> <p>I expect my elected officials to look out for the welfare of all citizens and to protect the power of the vote equally for all citizens, not to let partisanship enter in. I want to see totally unbiased redistricting with lines drawn with blinders on as to party affiliations and race. Our country as a whole is badly in need of politicians who believe in equity and fairness, not ones who see politics as a game they can win if clever enough and underhanded enough. Please see that a stop is put to partisan lines in redistricting this time and forever more.</p>
4099		Aug 24 2017 1:24PM	Ms. Ruby Coughenour	<p>The maps should be drawn fairly, with no party favoritism. Our representatives need to represent all the people so that the NCGA can be constituted legally.</p>
4100		Aug 24 2017 1:39PM	Ms. Ann Anderson	<p>Redistricting should be done so that districts are compact. They should be based on density and not consider registered voters' party affiliation or past election history. Districts should not consider where an incumbent is located.</p> <p>In my opinion, redistricting should be done mathematically, through a contractor selected by a bipartisan committee. It is important to democratic integrity that redistricting be a neutral, rather than partisan act.</p>
4101		Aug 24 2017 1:39PM	Dr. Virginia Richter	<p>The gerrymandering has to stop. We the people chose who represents us, not the other way around. The whole system needs to be re-worked so that it is fair to all: rural and urban, young and old, liberal and conservative, majority or minority voter. We have to come together to solve our problems. WE CHOOSE OUR POLITICIANS, THEY DO NOT CHOOSE US!</p>
4102		Aug 24 2017 1:42PM	Ms. Jeanne Langley	<p>I want legislative maps drawn fairly so that we, the people, can have the representation in the Legislature that truly represents our voices. Having vtrepresentative voting map mean that a party would have to earn control of the two houses instead of the current system of gerrymandering to take control</p>
4103		Aug 24 2017 1:43PM	Dr. John Lingle	<p>Extreme Gerrymandering must be stopped. It is destroying the democracy. NC has become a poster child for a Republic morphing into a Oligarchy. It's clear the make up of the state legislature does not reflect the political thinking of the citizens. Save our democracy and support non-partisan redistricting. I will not vote in the future for any democrat or republican who cannot show a record of fighting for non-partisan redistricting.</p>
4104		Aug 24 2017 1:45PM	Mrs. Mindy Kim	<p>If you unblock and pass,HB 200 then let a computer draw the map there will be no problems. Imagine, restoring Democracy to our suffering state. Tjis is inly one smsll step, but it merds yo start here.</p>
4105		Aug 24 2017 1:46PM	Mrs. Sara White	<p>It is time to do the ethical, moral thing and draw maps with no reference to voting patterns, incumbent location and race. Draw the maps based municipal and county boundaries, equality of number of voters and and ensure equal treatment of communities of interest. It may be legal to adopt maps that favor one party or another but is not the right thing to do. Our state has spent millions of dollars to defend these maps-- it is time to draw good maps.</p>
4106		Aug 24 2017 1:46PM	Karen Rindge	<p>After hoping the legislature would take seriously the ruling from the US Supreme Court to create constitutionally valid legislative districts, I am deeply discouraged. The newly proposed districts were drawn by the same consultant who drew the unconstitutional lines. The public is asking for districts that are more concentrated and that do not skew political representation unfairly. These newly proposed districts will end up in court again, only to continue the illegality of the current legislative representation. It is time for independently drawn districts.</p>

4107		Aug 24 2017 1:48PM	Mrs. Ann Kaplan	It is long past time that the NCGA creates a fair and nonpartisan redistricted map for our state. This can be accomplished by having a nonpartisan group of citizens create the districts so that they are not skewed to one party or the other for either partisan or racial biases. The districts should not be constructed to favor incumbent legislators who are there now because the previous maps were built for partisan reasons. We are a 50/50 state and our districts should reflect this as closely as possible.
4108		Aug 24 2017 2:03PM	Ms. Tatjana Adams	Charlottesville should be a warning to all of you elected officials re how critical it is to have a sense of legitimacy around political decision making! If people feel they are being "ruled" by an illegitimate minority they will likewise resort to violence as the only means they have left. You owe it to your children to hand them a legitimate non-partisan democracy they can have faith in!!!!
4109		Aug 24 2017 2:07PM	Mr. Jonathan Redman	Explain to me how a state that is pretty evenly split Democrat and Republican is governed by veto proof majorities in both house and Senate? Gerrymandering kills democracy. Maps need to be drawn for compactness not politics. Get politics out of it.
4110		Aug 24 2017 2:08PM	Ms. Mary Eubanks	The people are speaking. You are the "representatives." The Courts have spoken. Courts and people desire and demand that you fulfill your duty to empower voters in the fairest creation of voter district lines.
4111		Aug 24 2017 2:11PM	Mr. JACK BURGER, CPA	I believe in inpartial voting districts and not ones that are qerrymandered
4112		Aug 24 2017 2:13PM	Mr. Philip Quinones	redrawn maps look very similar and should be looked more for revision. I am curious why we need so many reps/sen in charloe and Raleigh?
4113		Aug 24 2017 2:13PM	Mr. Steven McCallister	The legislature's proposed new redistricting maps trade overt racial gerrymandering with overt political gerrymandering that likely functions, as a practical matter, as racial gerrymandering in both its intent and its discriminatory impact. The proposed maps have efficiency gaps of nearly 12%, and they have been intentionally drawn to maximize the power of Republican votes over Democratic votes. This incredibly aggressive gerrymandering is unconstitutional, it is undemocratic, and it violates the rights of NC voters, to include both registered Democrats as well as registered Unaffiliated voters; together, these voters make up over 2/3 of the voters in NC. In a state that votes roughly 50/50 Democratic/Republican, it is absolutely outrageous that Republicans have illegally drawn themselves into holding a supermajority in our NC legislature. And you are now compounding the effects of your illegal power grab by taking that illegally obtained power to continue to perpetuate your illegal, unconstitutional, undemocratic stranglehold on our State government. Shame on you! You have also failed to follow the Voting Rights Act by failing to appropriately consider race as required by federal law. Your maps are illegal, they are a bad faith effort at compliance with the Federal Court's order, and I hope they are rejected by the Court.
4114		Aug 24 2017 2:14PM	Ms. Mary Ward	When the lines were redrawn the objective was polarization. I have confidence in our elected officials to create voting maps that are inclusive and does not polarize a particular party, race, or other category. We are an inclusive state so our voting lines should be inclusive, not exclusive. Thank you for representing the integrity of those who voted for you.
4115		Aug 24 2017 2:16PM	Mr. Richard Greene	I implore you to move forward with a non-partisan commission to redraw our states electoral maps. It is imperative we have competitive districts to ensure our democracy is served. Both parties have been guilty of districting abuses that slant the tables in their favor.... this is wrong. It is time for honest and fair competition so all citizens are confident there voices are heard.
4116		Aug 24 2017 2:33PM	Ms. Joan Jolliff	Thank you. Federal judges stated our state is discriminating in our current voting districts. As a voter I expect this to be corrected to include every citizen in NC can have a convenient and easy accessible day and time to vote in our state.
4117		Aug 24 2017 2:34PM	Dr. Elizabeth Wagner	The people of North Carolina are asking you to proceed with the redistricting process in a open, honest fashion that strives to ensure every person's vote counts equally. Instead you have pursued a process that demonstrates your cynicism and disregard for the people of North Carolina. You don't want our votes to count, that is clear, because if they did, most of you would be out of a job. We know that. We see what is going on. Please go back to the drawing board using a new consultant (not the same person who made the old, unconstitutional maps) and pursue the redistricting process in good faith, with the intention to allow every person's vote to be counted equally, which is what our democracy demands.
4118		Aug 24 2017 2:35PM	Jennifer Keith	The redistricting process must be open, avoid racial or partisan gerrymandering, and allow voters to pick their political representatives, not the other wav around.
4119		Aug 24 2017 2:49PM	Rhonda Zeller	I am appalled at the house and senate trying to take away the voters power in North Carolina. Please reject the plan and have a new map drawn by outside sources wth no ties to our elections. I am so discussed in the Republican Party.

4120		Aug 24 2017 2:52PM	Dr. Brenda Rubens	All the people of NC who are registered to vote deserve a fair vote. Districts that are gerrymandered to ensure that one segment of our population determines the probable party breakdown of that district and targets voter outcome to favor one party over the other is unfair. When districts are drawn to discourage voter equality based on race and ethnicity, the result is not only unjust, it is illegal in that it disenfranchises voters. The courts have ruled that we must have fairly drawn districts in NC. It is the responsibility of our elected representatives to follow the rule of law and make certain that redistricting is fair and equitable.
4121		Aug 24 2017 2:58PM	Sara Bausch	<p>I support a process for drawing political district maps that is fair and open, avoids racial or partisan gerrymandering, and allows voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around. We urge the N.C. General Assembly to support an independent redistricting process that follows those guiding principles.</p> <p>The supreme court has ruled twice that NC is illegally gerrymandered in a way that both disenfranchises people of color and benefits the GOP. The new maps are no different, and laughably favor the GOP. It is TIME to redraw the districts fairly and in a way that accurately represents the state of NC.</p> <p>It's simple math: More of us are registered Democrats (40 percent, at least according to a UNC analyses) and another 29 percent are unaffiliated, only 31 percent of our registered voters are GOP - why is 2/3 of both the NC House and NC Senate officials GOP?</p> <p>We are tired of rigged elections making sure that politicians are insulating themselves from the will of the people. This includes shoddy insulting practices like refusing to reveal the new maps until just before the hearing, not providing data about registration or race or giving the public a chance to fully analyze the maps.</p> <p>You have wasted millions of our dollars trying to defend the gerrymanders, and now you waste even more to draw another crappy one. It will result in you going back to court. Meanwhile the GOP brand continues to follow Trump straight down the toilet.</p> <p>We demand equal representation, including a redistricting process that is OPEN, non partisan, and without racial bias. Do not think that you can get away with gerrymandering districts again to protect illegally elected GOP politicians that do not work with their districts.</p>
4122		Aug 24 2017 3:03PM	Ms. Catherine Shoemaker	The citizens of North Carolina deserve fair non-partisan voting districts. Do not base legislative maps on partisan or racial considerations. Vote against Senate Bill 691 and House Bill 927, the newly proposed redistricting mans.
4123		Aug 24 2017 3:09PM	B Jackson	Absolute power corrupts absolutely.
4124		Aug 24 2017 3:12PM	Mr. Bill Groves	I have been appalled at the utter sham of legislative districting in the past, and the recent "attempt" to redistrict was of little help to solve the insult of gerrymandering. The public hearings held recently seemed to be an attempt to suppress our efforts to have our voices heard rather than any attempt to seek just public input. I will be watching closely and will do all I can to force NC congress to stop it's gerrymandering, which was NOT resolved following federal intervention recently.
4125		Aug 24 2017 3:27PM	Ms. Julia Cruz	Voting Maps shuold represent ALL the people equally. If your not for this simple idea. You not working hard for American democracy.
4126		Aug 24 2017 3:33PM	Mr. Gary Grant	<p>REDISTRICITING</p> <p>The controversial issues and unlawful political configurations by N C Legislative Republican leaders surrounding “redistricting” are symbolic of and more dangerous than the nationally condemned racist and violent protest conducted in Charlottesville, Va.</p> <p>The destructive impact of the current direction is proof of the narrow logic and vengeful goal to not only discriminate against people of color but included is the goal to exhaust and make these voting citizens into puppets with no fair and equitable representation. We are so tired of being disfranchised and treated as though we are idiots.</p> <p>Ignoring federal court rulings is nothing new in North Carolina. We continue to have state sponsored segregated school districts 60 years after Brown vs. Board of Education. Republican leadership continues to ignore federal court rulings regarding these unlawful redistricting schemes, and voting rights atrocities.</p> <p>We are not fooled by your coded language and unconscionable “2017 House Redistricting Plan.” In your so-called “public session” Tuesday, August 21, 2017, we noticed there is no meaningful public dialogue about the map because decisions are already locked in with no real purpose for public descent or for conflict resolution.</p> <p>On Tuesday, the teacher in the room was right when she compared the aggravated stark reality of the map to her kindergarten and first grade students coloring outside the line.</p> <p>Gone are the days when Republican leaders can fool us with this false phenomenal religious propaganda to justify keeping the poor and people of color in their so-called place. Our instinct fight and proudly take responsibility for our own freedom and religious rights, and for</p>

4127		Aug 24 2017 3:50PM	Mrs. Inez Parker	As a Christian, we should all try and do the right thing for each other. Be honest and fair. Everyone should have the right to vote. God is watching all of us because life is too short and we do not know when it is going to end!!I am a true believer "YOU REAP WHAT YOU SOW".
4128		Aug 24 2017 3:59PM	Mr. Charles Oliver	I am against the new maps being proposed, I am against the approach being taken and believe that a more measured approach is necessary. My state (North Carolina) has spent millions to defend maps in legal battles, this needs to end. A super majority of the districts proposed most certainly favor one party over the other, this needs to be a non-partisan effort that benefits the state. These maps are still racially gerrymandered and at the end of the day, promotes white supremacy, this must end.
4129		Aug 24 2017 4:10PM	MARGARET PRITCHARD	The proposed Senate and House redistricting maps do not meet the needs of the citizens of NC as we heard loudly and clearly at the state wide public hearings held on 23Aug2017. We need a nonpartisan process for revising districts in NC that is similar to the process that is used in Iowa. It's time to end the gerrymandering game in NC once and for all. It's embarrassing to me that NC is famous for having 3 of the 10 most gerrymandered districts in the entire USA.
4130		Aug 24 2017 4:17PM	Mr. John Emerson	Districts must be redrawn to ensure that only contiguous areas are represented by one representative, and that each area includes about the same number of people. The party of the representative shall not be a consideration in drawing the boundaries of an area.
4131		Aug 24 2017 4:20PM	Mrs. mae basye	Please give over the redistricting of NC voting counties to either the courts or an independent body. The GOP-controlled NC legislature is making a mockery of the court order to redraw the districts and proposing the same tired old formulas, disguised as compliance. The people of NC are neither stupid nor blind - we will not be silenced for another election! An independent neutral entity should redraw the districts, so that the voting rights of all are protected.
4132		Aug 24 2017 4:33PM	Ms. Joyce Black	It is plain that in several areas of both the House and Senate proposed maps, the constitutional violations are not cured and, indeed, the racially gerrymandering continues. We need bipartisan drawn maps. Voters choose the candidates, not the other way around.
4133		Aug 24 2017 4:36PM	Ms. Julia Fussell	I think that the new redistricting should be drawn by an independent group who is paid for by the state, not Republicans. I don't feel as though I have representation. Oh, to have some of the former Legislators who knew how to govern.
4134		Aug 24 2017 4:37PM	Ms. Eileen Schneider	I am opposed to the current plan as it continues to foster racial partitioning and continued gerrymandering.
4135		Aug 24 2017 4:49PM	Ms. Caren Lobo	DRAW UP NEW AND FAIR MAPS It appears to me that the Republican legislature is CONTINUING to use citizen's money to create illegal districts for their own self enrichment. Why else hire the same firm to redraw maps that were illegal and have cost the taxpayers millions of dollars in legal fees? Why continue to ? waste more of ?our money defending the indefensible? From the Charlotte Observer:Lawmakers spent another \$3.7 million defending redistricting plans that were also overturned. http://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/politics-government/article116795138.html#storylink=cpy Winston Salem Journal: Last August, the judges ruled that 28 of the 170 districts used to elect North Carolina's legislature were drawn to weaken the influence of black voters across the state, the Raleigh paper reported. They ordered a correction. An appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court led to a unanimous affirmation of the ruling in June. Republicans have asked Thomas Hofeller, a veteran mapmaker for the party, to help redraw the districts, according to the Raleigh paper. But Hofeller was behind the 2011 maps that caused so much trouble. The Republicans should join with Democrats to find a new mapmaker.
4136		Aug 24 2017 4:54PM	Mr. Stephen Beaulieu	Perhaps the single greatest threat to our democracy is gerrymandering because it subverts the will of the people in favor of the will of the controlling party. NEITHER Republicans or Democrats should have ANY input into the methodology for creating voting districts. Both political parties are guilty of this and it needs to stop. Permanently. Appoint an impartial commission, develop rules for the creation of districts, and implement those rules in a GIS-based framework that would automate the process. The rules should be based on representation as a function of census data, not political affiliation, economic status, or race. This is NOT complicated unless the decision rules are driven by political gain rather than the desire for fair representation. This is an important step in strengthening our democracy such that we can have open, if not honest, dialogue about our values and policies.

4137		Aug 24 2017 4:58PM	Mrs. Ana Rozzi	Please take into account the totality of the people in this beautiful state. Representatives cannot continue to gerrymander the state into one that is not fully representative of its people. The Supreme court has already told you that maps must be redrawn and the gerrymandering stopped. 170 seats of which only 15 may be competitive is not an election by the people but by and for the incumbent and the Republicans. Let's get back to fair elections and let the best man/woman win. This way Democrats and Republicans can lose or win in an honest race and lead them to do better in the next election but only if they are given a fair chance. Thank you.
4138		Aug 24 2017 5:03PM	Mr. Carroll Ipock	Could we please have non-gerrymandered sensible, logical districts in NC. Fair to all. Not about politics, but about fair representation. We're best when we're balanced.
4139		Aug 24 2017 5:03PM	Ms. Helen Livingston	Make Fair Maps! Follow the Law!
4140		Aug 24 2017 5:12PM	Mr. Joseph Sandoval	The fact that you have changed the maps very little indicates that you are grudgingly complying with the court order. If power is what you wish to consolidate and protect, the message has been received loud and clear by your constituents. But consider this, you will only be keeping power while the people who support you continue to shrink. I would urge you to use the map designed by the non-partisan panel led by Tom Ross. This would go a long way towards showing a good faith effort to be inclusive. The non-partisan map would likely protect your majority, only giving up the super-majority you have in both houses. Refuse to be inclusive and the stakes of losing your majority get higher and higher. Play for the long game and show your faith in all of North Carolina.
4141		Aug 24 2017 5:21PM	Marianne Newman	I and many, many other NC citizens are horrified by the NC Legislature's totally unsatisfactory process for producing the new district maps. A huge number of us let you know clearly earlier this summer that only an independent commission could draw fair and equitable district boundaries, free of racial and extremely partisan prejudices. In a long life of encouraging citizen participation, I have never encountered a public as eager to add their names to a directive to their government as I did in this case. Your constituents do not want what you have done. Fair and independent redistricting, now and in the future, is the only acceptable way to go.
4142		Aug 24 2017 5:31PM	Mr. Joe Bearden	I am very disappointed that the new maps do not protect democracy in North Carolina. Legislators elected from illegal districts have continued to create new maps to protect themselves. (1) N.C. lawmakers have used unlawful gerrymandering to win elections in 2012, 2014 and 2016; they keep passing laws in an illegal General Assembly that can ignore voters. (2) The new maps continue extreme partisan gerrymandering. About 90% of the districts clearly favor one party, creating safe seats, with little or no partisan competition. (3) General Assembly leaders have spent \$4.8 million of taxpayers' money to defend their maps in court, but they keep losing. Stop cheating, stop wasting our money! The legislators should do better, if not, I pray the judge will remove them from their responsibility. NC citizens deserve government for and by the people.
4143		Aug 24 2017 5:35PM	Mr. Michael Beech	Enough of maps driven to give one party hegemony over the state. You MUST use a process not based on party affiliation, race, or sex. You MUST use a "blind" system that balances districts based solely on population. These computer programs are available and it is a matter only of the desire to manage and suppress the vote and establish one party rule (my civics classes taught me that was called something else....oh yes a dictatorship or Fascism). Make the redistricting process work for the people, not politicians.
4144		Aug 24 2017 5:36PM	Dr. Tom Cannon	Who is against fair districts? It is only right that any representative who votes for these gerrymandered districts needs to stand up at every opportunity and explain why they are against fair voting districts. If unwilling or unable to do that, he/she must vote against this and work on the process of creating fair districts.
4145		Aug 24 2017 5:36PM	Sherrie Dillard	we need fair district maps that truly represent all of the citizens of North Carolina. If the GOP cannot win elections by addressing the needs and issues of all people they should not be running for office. It is time we have elections with integrity that we can be proud of in North Carolina. We are a national laughing stock and represent fear and underhanded politics. It's time we have politicians that we can trust and respect.
4146		Aug 24 2017 5:36PM	Mr. Tim Songer	I am ashamed to live in North Carolina. Our Republican-dominated legislature acts as if gerrymandering is their right despite continued rejection of their district lines by the US Supreme Court. The latest redistricting results are more of the same. I am going to do everything in my power as a citizen to replace the current Republican-dominated legislature with a group of leaders who want to represent the people of this state. The redistricting process must be turned over to a non-partisan group who are charged with providing the people a fair opportunity to choose their representatives.

4147		Aug 24 2017 5:42PM	Mr. Ron Donson	<p>The US is supposed to be a democracy where people choose their representatives NOT where representatives choose their voters. NC is becoming a laughing stock in the nation between the stupid bathroom bills and districting.</p> <p>Play like adults and do the fair thing. Draw maps that don't heavily favor Republicans OR Democrats. What you've produced so far are something a 3rd world country or dictatorship would create.</p>
4148		Aug 24 2017 5:42PM	Mrs. Marcia Boyle	<p>We the people - remember us?</p> <p>Respectively, North Carolina Democrat. who deserves an equal voice.</p>
4149		Aug 24 2017 5:47PM	Mrs. Kathryn Garcia	<p>The Public Hearings on the proposed NC House and Senate Redistricting Maps drew hundreds of attendees at five locations with over 200 public comments during a five hour period. These comments reflect the widespread and strong dissatisfaction with our current gerrymandered state.</p> <p>There has been too much time and taxpayer money spent defending the 2011 voting district maps. Historically the party in control at the time of redistricting works to create maps that will cement their power. We must take this process out of the hands of politicians and develop criteria for maps based on economic, geographical and voter representation for all North Carolinians.</p> <p>It is time for the Judiciary to appoint an Independent Commission to work on this issue. We need this problem solved so elected officials will hear all our voices and respond to the varied needs of our large and dynamic state.</p> <p>Kathryn Garcia</p>
4150		Aug 24 2017 5:47PM	Mrs. Mary G Dowd G Dowd	<p>The voting lines need to be drawn such that the citizens choose their candidate said. Not that the district vote is predicted by the lines. We need impartial committee to redraw lines.</p>
4151		Aug 24 2017 5:49PM	Mrs. Sylvie Horvath	<p>I was taught every vote in our country counts. Due to gerrymandering of districts, it appears that many citizens' votes are not equal. By fixing districts so there is not competition this legislature no longer fairly represents the will of the people of this state. The other party did it in the past is no excuse. We are suppose to improve,voting rights, not regress .When will gerrymandering end?</p>
4152		Aug 24 2017 5:57PM	Mrs. Carol Ann Minor	<p>It is time for redistricting maps to follow to the letter the guidelines presented by the courts. You are being watched carefully and will eventually suffer the consequences if you do not obey the courts and stop partisan Gerrymanderring.</p> <p>Thank you for finally listening to your constituents and giving us districts which will allow our votes to count</p>
4153		Aug 24 2017 6:00PM	Mrs. Barbara Pangle	<p>I am writing to request gerrymandering in NC stop. The Supreme Court has ruled, so stop stalling and redraw those lines in a fair and unbiased manner. I and many others are upset about the many ways the Republicans are being unethical,sneaky and conniving in trying to gain and hold an unfair advantage in the government in our state. Remember you work for all of us not just the Republicans.</p>
4154		Aug 24 2017 6:00PM	Ms. Mary Goodkind	<p>As a voter I am sick and tired of gerrymandering. Your blatant voter suppression results in a non-democratic form of government in our state. You will be remembered for your arrogance and lack of civility towards your colleagues and constituents. I do not accept your behavior or the resulting districts you are trying to force on the people of North Carolina. We need a non-partisan process that does not invalidate voters' wishes</p>
4155		Aug 24 2017 6:11PM	Ms. Peggy Ray	<p>An 84-year-old native North Carolinian, I am embarassed, angered and shamed by the continuous efforts of the State's Republican controlled legislature to make voting as difficult as possible, especially in areas of minority citizens' majority!! Now there is an effort to deny a Supreme Court order to re-drew redistricting maps by using, not only the same map-drawer, but in also much the same way!! This must be rectified before November, 2017 elections!!!</p>
4156		Aug 24 2017 6:13PM	Ms. Jasmine Barcelona	<p>Fair maps protect our democracy. Let the truth rise to the top. Stop the gerrymandering. It is ridiculous. North Carolina has to come to it's senses. We've made the news for the wrong reasons for too long. Let's be crusaders in the fight for democracy.</p>
4157		Aug 24 2017 6:14PM	Mr. Ron Coble	<p>Fix the district disasters created by the Republican Party!! NOW!!</p> <p>Ron Coble Mint Hill. NC</p>
4158		Aug 24 2017 6:17PM	Mr. Robert Clark	<p>Stop the corrupt agenda with regards to district maps. Fair maps...not maps drawn in order isolate certain community members.</p>
4159		Aug 24 2017 6:19PM	Mrs. Judy Carter	<p>It's is my opinion that the redrawn districts are still unacceptable and unfairly help the Republicans/conservatives in NC The districts also are biased racially and against lower income voters. Please redraw the districts using persons who are independent and not in the pockets of either party.</p>
4160		Aug 24 2017 6:29PM	Mr. Bill Carley	<p>As a citizen of this once great state, I am appalled that the very same people that drew the last re districting lines, are getting the chance to do it again. I say no to this! I want an independent non partisan commission to draw the lines. The people have no trust in the state lawmakers to draw these lines again. PERIOD!!</p>

4161		Aug 24 2017 6:35PM	Jody Smith	I urge you to draw only NON PARTISAN voting districts. It's what a majority of North Carolinians want and what we deserve, to preserve democratic principles. Anything else, protecting incumbents, etc., is plain and simply CHEATING and voter suppression. Politicians picking their voters must stop. An independent council should be responsible for drawing districts, not politicians who have only self interest at heart
4162		Aug 24 2017 7:13PM	Mr. Geoffrey Butler	The issue of legislative redistricting is an important one for me. I believe very strongly that North Carolina should support independent redistricting using a nonpartisan commission. It seems to me that the best way to create legislative districts is to do so using clear measurable criteria such as population, contiguity, compactness and unity of communities and cities. I would urge that the legislature not vote in favor of the most recent proposed legislative map and work in a nonpartisan fashion to create new districts. It seems to me that the map drawn up by Common Cause North Carolina would be a sensible place to start
4163		Aug 24 2017 7:21PM	Mrs. Demia Wright	I am ashamed of our state. We have elected officials who are ignoring the rulings of our national Supreme Court and completing disrepecing citizens they were elected to represent. We need fair maps for this state. Not gerrymandered maps. Not sham maps. We need officials who listen to public input and federal court decisions. We need the districting to actually represent the citizens of that region and their interests. These maps are no good and continue the racial gerrymandering that was indicated as illegal. Redo these maps so that they are fair
4164		Aug 24 2017 7:31PM	Mr. Greg Seaton	It is time for the Republicans to put aside their partisan redistricting maneuvers and work to put in place a map so NC voters enjoy the blessings of living in a true democracy. Shenanigans enacted by state legislators and former governor are turning our state into a banana republic run by the party currently in the majority.
4165		Aug 24 2017 7:37PM	Mrs. Peggy Wright	A North Carolinian, yes. A proud one, no, not with the legislature showing contempt for the judicial system by continuing to gerrymander voting districts. Democratic legislature never gerrymandered as viciously as this. We have more Democratic votes than Republican votes and only have token Democratic representation in Raleigh. This is immoral.
4166		Aug 24 2017 7:48PM	Mr. Jonathan Farmer	These maps continue a process, started by Democrats and perfected by Republicans, of creating districts that do not represent the citizens of this state. It is long past time to create nonpartisan districts in order to support democracy.
4167		Aug 24 2017 7:50PM	Mr. jeff Dektor	The Legislature must appoint an independent commission to create new voting districts. A repetition of the current action is an insult to the vast majority of citizens of North Carolina. The map was released without even a day for review and did not include relevant data regarding race and partisanship. Gerrymandering in NC has reached an extreme point where politicians are almost assured that their reelection is guaranteed. We know that is bad for democracy. The Legislature wasted \$4.8 million of our money to defend their chicanery. An independent commission should have drawn the new districts; the public should have access to the map with supporting information for at least a week before a hearing. Until this happens the NC Legislature will waste more money, enact laws like HB2 and be the punch line of jokes. If the current map is adopted I will endeavor to register many new voters. That means 4 of 5 will be upset with the current map and
4168		Aug 24 2017 7:53PM	Ms. Anne Geer	I am incensed, but not surprised, at the results of the partisan re-districting process. Legislators (of either party) should not be the people deciding the districts. The results in this case, continuing the unrepresentative Republican dominance, show this. Please have an NON PARTISAN commission to decide our districts, and let each vote count.
4169		Aug 24 2017 8:14PM	Dr. Karen Hodges	Citizen feedback on the latest redistricting plans was made difficult by late release of information and difficult scheduling in inadequate venues. This was shameful and disrespectful to voters. Continued efforts at partisan gerrymandering are eroding democracy in this state. They must and will be opposed by all who, regardless of party affiliation, want elections to reflect the will of the people.
4170		Aug 24 2017 8:18PM	Ms. heather rodin	It is clear to me that the new proposed redistricting is yet another attempt to insure republican party control of NC.
4171		Aug 24 2017 8:20PM	Ms. Robbin Brooks	Using unfair practices to rig elections is a crime against the citizens of North Carolina. As a voter, I demand to have my vote mean as much as any other citizen. Having unfair voting districts makes that impossible. Please do the right thing for all of North Carolina not just what it takes to keep the Republicans in leadership. Two wrongs don't make a right! Thank you, Robbin

4172		Aug 24 2017 8:27PM	Kyle Reynolds	<p>Hello,</p> <p>Regarding the recent issue of redistricting, I don't understand why we don't use math to determine how districts should be drawn. This would remove all questions about partisanship and gerrymandering during redistricting.</p> <p>Thank you,</p>
4173		Aug 24 2017 8:43PM	Mr. Evan Harrison	<p>Kyle Reynolds</p> <p>Dear Redistricting Committee,</p> <p>The only redistricting process that North Carolinians can trust is one carried out by a nonpartisan group (as proposed by Representative McGrady in HB200). Hiring Thomas Hofeller, who drew the previous maps that targeted "African Americans with almost surgical precision" according to the federal court, is about as far in the wrong direction as you can go.</p> <p>Your new maps take politics and incumbents into consideration, but do not take race into consideration. Race (racism, really) is the reason you're redrawing these maps, so to ignore race altogether and focus on political advantage for Republicans is deeply troubling. You'll likely be wasting more tax dollars in court in the near future.</p> <p>I attended the hearings on Tuesday in Raleigh, but left early because I was put in an overflow room where they pulled up wral.com and subjected everyone to a choppy livestream of the hearings that froze every 5-10 minutes. Your execution of Tuesday's hearings was on par with your overall execution of this redistricting process. Do better.</p> <p>Best, Evan Harrison</p>
4174		Aug 24 2017 8:45PM	Ms. Joan Brockman	<p>Since when did America get so ugly that it requires cheating to win.</p>
4175		Aug 24 2017 8:54PM	Mrs. Rosemary Carton	<p>Your map redistribution drawing is completely unfair! It is gerrymandering at is worst! It needs to be redone and done correctly! Come on people-- you were elected to represent all of the people. Be fair!</p>
4176		Aug 24 2017 8:56PM	Ms. Meredith Emmett	<p>The proposed maps are not any fairer than what we currently have. Make the process non-partisan.</p>
4177		Aug 24 2017 9:04PM	Braxton Malan	<p>The party in power has run roughshod over democracy and seem to have no shame and no care. I'd like to think we are better than Cuba which our state government is now being compared to. Think of it, our state government is being compared to a Communist country!! http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/north-carolina-not-democracy-elections-cuba-iran-venezuela-gop-a7494561.html</p> <p>If there is any patriotism left at all, turn this over to an independent commission made up of BOTH parties to decide how voting districts should be drawn. By hiring the very same group that created the court-rejected lines before, the party in power has shown blatant disregard for democracy and blatant disregard to the people of this great state.</p> <p>Gerrymandering has gone on in both parties for years. This we know. But now, with all of the data capabilities we have now, it's not the same thing. It's like gerrymandering on steroids. It is cheating, it is stealing, it has severely damaged the democracy in this state and it is WRONG. We need a bipartisan commission NOW.</p>
4178		Aug 24 2017 9:28PM	Ms. Elaine Nalee	<p>I am disgusted with the Republican Party and it's blatant disregard for the basic tenets of a Representative Democracy. You are administering rules as if you were operating in a Banana Republic, NOT in the Republic of the United States of America. In your proposed idea of what would rectify the illegal racial gerrymandering and manipulation of legislative districts, you demonstrate a contempt for fairness. Your self-serving, self-agrandizing is despicable. Who do you think you are kidding? Not, we, the people.</p> <p>NC Legislators must implement a plan for independent , NON-PARTISAN redistricting. Being worthy of representing the people means the people endorsed who you are, and what you stand for with their vote in an open, fair, contest. Not a rigged, skewed system implemented in the middle of the night by a bunch of tiny-minded, self-serving good 'ol boys.</p>
4179		Aug 24 2017 9:49PM	Mr. Jake Poysti	<p>Please stop the partisan gerrymandering and instead implement an independent group to do redistricting in a fair manner that gives everyone equal representation and strengthens our democracy</p>
4180		Aug 24 2017 9:51PM	Mrs. Evelyn Morehead	<p>I want my vote to count. I do NOT want gerrymandering to render my vote useless. I cannot stress this enough. Redraw districts fairly!</p>
4181		Aug 24 2017 10:02PM	Sandra Bundgaard	<p>It seems clear that certain positions are being protected in the newly drawn maps. Protect democracy and draw fair, ungeremandered maps! NC citizens deserve better than you are giving them. These maps are a disgrace to the notion of democracy in NC.</p>

4182		Aug 24 2017 10:21PM	Mr. Thomas Bader	I believe that redistricting should be done by an impartial and unaffiliated commission. No person's vote should be more or less important than any other voters. Districts should be drawn in a straightforward commonsense way, not one that creates areas resembling contortionist sniders.
4183		Aug 24 2017 10:46PM	Dr. Simin Hall	The districts newly drawn is motivated by race rather than basic right of people. These maps let representatives choose voters rather than people elect the officials in line with their persuasions. The illegal maps have protected legislators from being held accountable by voters since 2012. General Assembly leaders have spent \$4.8 million of taxpayers' money to defend their maps in court. There are many projects eliminated because of lack of fund. The actions of General assembly are irresponsible; they are stalling. Districts must be very equal in population and obey other laws. The maps must be evaluated for overall racial bias and partisan competitiveness, using tools recognized by courts to measure fairness. Our constitution must be supported and strengthened.
4184		Aug 24 2017 10:53PM	Mr. Roger and Mary Stephens	FIX THE UNCONSTITUTIONAL DISTRICTS NOW!
4185		Aug 24 2017 11:06PM	Ms. Marlene Supernavage	I am very concerned about fairly drawing congressional districts. I believe it should be based purely on population distribution, NOT on how one believes any part of that population is going to vote. Please do it mathematically. not nolitically.
4186		Aug 24 2017 11:09PM	Judith Hoffman	Hopefully you all have dug your own graves by so blatantly disregarding the court's directions to redraw the maps so that they will not discriminate and unfairly give advantages to the Republican party. Surely the judges will see through all of this and will take over the job of redistricting themselves.
4187		Aug 24 2017 11:11PM	Ms. Terry Landers	It is time to REMOVE PARTISAN POLITICS from the process of establishing voting districts. Districts should be apportioned primarily according to population ("one person one vote"), substantially equal population in each, geographically contiguous, with respect for boundaries of municipalities and counties. Party affiliation or racial makeup of the citizens should have absolutely NO INFLUENCE on the resulting district boundaries.
4188		Aug 24 2017 11:13PM	Ms. Karen Manship	Districts should be drawn as objectively as possible; I think Democrats and Republicans would agree on this. Anything drawn by the current legislature (or their GOP consultant) is going to lean toward preserving their own power. The question of boundaries can be an objective question, though. Why can't we just take the population of NC (approximately 10.1 million) and divide by the number of districts (in the House, 120), to calculate the population each district should have (in this case, approximately 84,000 people)? Then, start in one corner of the state-- for example, Brunswick County. Brunswick County has approximately 122,000 people. Make the southern 90% of that county the first district. Then combine the remaining 38,000 people with 46,000 people in the contiguous area of New Hanover County, and so forth across the state until you have 120 districts of equal population, with no consideration given to previous voting records OR race. To determine Senate districts, you could start from the other corner of the state-- say, Ashe County. Tell a computer your criteria, and a model can objectively spit out districts. This is the only fair way. Anything drawn by a human is inherently nonpartisan. Thank you for taking public comment. I hope the legislature will do what is fair, and look out for true democracy and not just your own power.
4189		Aug 24 2017 11:45PM	Mr. Joel Kallander	It's unfortunate that we are the number one state when it comes to gerrymandering.I'd much rather it were education,or least taxed population but a-last we are not so lucky. Please adopt a new district map where all individuals are represented fairly. Respectfully, Joel Kallander
4190		Aug 25 2017 5:37AM	Ms. kathleen sab	The new maps invalidate my vote. You are manipulating the electorate to get your predetermined results, Why can't you designate a representative committee that uses fair criteria and computer technology to set up voting districts that give the voters in NC a representative voice
4191		Aug 25 2017 6:24AM	Mrs. Jacquelyn Kennedy	Whether the lines are drawn by racial factors, or party factors, the unfair advantage is palpable. We need to get a more inclusive mix into Raleigh because I, for one, don't feel MY needs are being served.
4192		Aug 25 2017 6:36AM	Mrs. Vicki Petrosky	Make the right decision to correct gerrymandering that has dominated our state, therefore NOT reflecting the voters in NC. Government by the people and for the people is our right and the foundation of our country. Make it a true democracy by fixing these issues to reflect and represent our citizens fairly.

4193		Aug 25 2017 6:40AM	Ms. Rachel Campbell	<p>I was at the meeting in Charlotte on the redistricting maps. The meeting was a total disaster. The room was very small with not enough room and seating for more than maybe 40 people which left the back of the room with standing room only and people lined up outside that could not get in so lots of people left.</p> <p>Also I was there at 315PM to sign up to speak for the 4PM meeting. Needless to say I was never able to speak since at 7PM things seemed to be breaking up with the meeting from the organizers, I asked how many more were ahead of me (14) which would have been about 10-11Pm before I could speak. Since I had been there since 315PM, it was impossible for me to stay so I left as did others.</p> <p>Also the sound system was terrible, we could not hear the speaker or speakers in the room, nor could we hear the sound on the feeds coming in from the other locations. I did advise the person in charge of this situation and was told they had nothing to do with the sound set up and it was set up so it could be sent rather than our being able to hear what was being said. This was not a meeting to get input from the voters, it was a sham, it was set up only for them to say they had voter input.</p> <p>This is not how a Democracy is run, this disenfranchises voters as I have talked with voters to get them to vote and their answer is why bother, it's a waste of time the system is rigged and after seeing the previous maps and these latest maps, I agree with them, the system is rigged. When we use these techniques to suppress voters we are tampering with the very root of our Freedom. This is how we turn a Democracy into a Dictatorship by taking away one freedom at the time. My Heart was broken to see this happening to our Great Country. Freedom is not Free, we must guard it every day and take the time to know the issues and vote and we all must learn that my freedom only extends to the infringement of your freedom and visa versa.</p> <p>Until we have an independent group redrawing the lines we will not Do what's right! I am ashamed to say I am a Republican!</p>
4194		Aug 25 2017 7:05AM	Mrs. Beth Hill	
4195		Aug 25 2017 7:09AM	Mrs. Carolyn Myracle	<p>It is very important that all people have a representative voice in our state. The only way this can happen is to have an unbiased group, an independent group, draw the lines for the districts. It will never be just as long as the Republicans or the Democrats decide or hire who does this job.</p>
4196		Aug 25 2017 7:27AM	Mrs. Elizabeth Miller	<p>The new maps seem to be very similar to the old maps - and no surprise as the same firm was used to create them. The time is now to correct this and stop wasting taxpayer money on maps that will only get shut down again. Do the right thing!</p>
4197		Aug 25 2017 7:57AM	Mr. Paul Williams	<p>I feel that it is inappropriate that the people who created the first set of maps, were selected to create the new maps. There has not been enough time for people to review the new maps. I feel that the GA should have a independent commission draw the maps in a non-partisan manner. The process should be changed so that one political party cannot draw the maps in their favor.</p>
4198		Aug 25 2017 8:32AM	Ms. Sarah Perkinson	<p>I believe that North Carolina needs a NON-PARTISAN way to draw voting maps. I also believe that gerrymandered districts is voter suppression. And I also believe that if a party wishes to "win" an election, all they need do is REPRESENT ALL THE PEOPLE. Thank you.</p>
4199		Aug 25 2017 8:45AM	Mrs. Doris Stith	<p>The clock and the calendar are not instruments to disadvantage people. The public needed more time to receive, review and respond to the redistricting maps.</p>
4200		Aug 25 2017 9:06AM	Mrs. Paige Wilhoit	<p>The voting district maps are not fair or just. Judges or none political citizens should draw the new districts. It is not right. Not fair. Current politicians will be voted out if you dont do better.</p>
4201		Aug 25 2017 9:20AM	Mr. Marc Chenoweth	<p>Please stop the corruption. There is no reason to look at information besides population when drawing these maps. None. How can communities have true representation any other way? You were elected to serve citizens and the communities of this state. Not your party. Not special interests. Citizens in communities. Don't draw them so you only have to represent those that agree with you. That's extremely self serving and not in the interests of communities. Why do you do what you do? If it's to represent the people of the state, then truly represent them and not your own interests.</p>
4202		Aug 25 2017 9:39AM	Ms. K Packard	<p>Racial gerrymandering is white supremacy. Do the right thing with this process. I don't want another redistributing that discriminates with "surgical precision".</p>
4203		Aug 25 2017 9:55AM	Mr. Lawrence Monroe	<p>North Carolina's proposed redistricting plan is a sham and changes effectively nothing as regards the effect of the currently illegal districting. When is the legislature going to use its right to redistrict in a way that creates a level playing field. At some point one party or the other must decide to do the "right" thing, the benefit of which will be</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) a very favorable electoral response from the general public; 2) a clear conscience knowing you did the morally, ethically and legally "right" thing; and 3) restore trust in the legislature and the Republican party
4204		Aug 25 2017 10:02AM	Ms. Lori Hedrick	<p>I am vehemently opposed to the new maps drawn for the General Assembly districts. 90% of the new General Assembly districts are solidly tilted to favor one party or another – mostly to the advantage of the Republican mapmakers. With these new maps, legislative leaders continue to rig our elections, reduce competition, and protect themselves from being held accountable for their actions in Raleigh. They want us to pay our taxes and shut up – but we won't settle for "taxation without representation." We are not asking for anything except what is FAIR AND REASONABLE.</p>

4205		Aug 25 2017 10:04AM	Mr. Ed Mathis	Why can't you guys draw maps that are TRULY nonpartisan and fair? You have always deprived me of the chance to be represented by people who I agree with, instead ensuring that YOUR candidates always win. That is not the democratic process!
4206		Aug 25 2017 10:15AM	Marcia Perry	You should do the RIGHT thing, NOT the partisan thing. Gerrymandering is wrong; every vote should count equally. It is role of our Legislature to LEAD BY EXAMPLE, as well as BY LAW. Please use a nonpartisan process to draw district boundaries, not a process that favors one party over another, or negates the votes of any group. The public is watching and will be casting votes, no matter how difficult you try to make it
4207		Aug 25 2017 10:24AM	Mr. Robert Jordan	The Republican party controls the NC House and Senate at least partially due to illegally drawn voting districts. After being ordered by the Supreme Court to draw fair maps not based on the race of voters, they have done it again. The current maps drawn by known map rigging experts have repeated the same crime. There appears to be no limit to what the Republicans will do to destroy democracy and stay in power
4208		Aug 25 2017 10:26AM	Jack Dainty	Please Stop the Gerrymandering of Voting Districts and draw them up fairly and evenly to allow for true honest citizen voting in the State and Federal Elections. Integrity is important and ethical standards must be followed. The Citizens of North Carolina deserve honest government action form all government officials regardless of political affiliation.
4209		Aug 25 2017 10:26AM	Ms. Susan B. McClanahan	My name is Susan B. McClanahan. I am from Orange County. I am speaking as a NC citizen, voter, and taxpayer. When you entered the NC General Assembly, you placed your left hand on the Bible and ?raised your right hand in the air to swear an oath to "support the Constitution of the United States." One year ago a federal three-judge panel ruled that you had violated that oath by using illegal, illegitimate, unconstitutional, racially discriminatory voting maps in three different NC elections. Republican lawmakers appealed to the US Supreme Court. On August 1, 2017, all members of the US Supreme Court UNANIMOUSLY agreed that your maps were unconstitutional. Yet you have continued to use those illegal maps as the basis for these new maps for 2018. Plus, you have used the very same consultant, Thomas Hofeller, who drew those illegal maps. In your repeatedly failed attempts to litigate and defend these illegal and racially discriminatory maps, you have wasted millions of taxpayer dollars. You have continued to drag your feet to delay and
4210		Aug 25 2017 10:46AM	Judy Thomas	I believe that gerrymandering is a major disabling blow to the fundamental structure of our democracy. The impact of one's free vote should not depend on one's housing venue. If you realize that the percentage of too often disadvantaged Black & Hispanic US residents is soon to approach 50%, it mandatory that these people have a strong voice NOW,not later. Beyond fairness, this is essential for the safety of our union. Gerrymandering panders to the concept of oligarchy; we know from history that oligarchies as well as monarchies do not survive the rage of impoverished and under-represented citizens. If you really love North Carolina and the US, please put an end to gerrymandering. It threatens to unravel this democracy.
4211		Aug 25 2017 10:47AM	Mr. WILLIAM PIRKEY	The only fair way to draw district maps is to have an independent organization do it. There are plenty of suggestions available on the Internet (for free even), and they are FAIR--not rigged by party or race. Keep one-person/one-vote alive, and do not suppress any groups' votes! Let North Carolina set the example for the rest of America
4212		Aug 25 2017 10:54AM	Chester Noble	Drawing district lines unfairly to guarantee a win for your party is not only wrong and undemocratic, it is growing a dictatorship. Shame on all involved in the cheating. The lines need to be drawn fairly without regard to party by a group of independent people interested in fairness and the intent of our constitution.

4213		Aug 25 2017 11:14AM	Mrs. Cindy Palay	A democracy only survives as long as we have fair elections. What you are doing on the redistricting is so clearly partisan that if and when the Democrats get in, they will do this back to you. This has got to stop on both sides. If you proceed with these new districts you will create the end of democracy in North Carolina. Or the Supreme Court will hopefully intervene in the next year and bring sanity to our politics. You have stopped believing in representative government and believe too much that your ideas are "right" and have forgotten that if you diminish the processes of our representative government, you will kill it. I am appalled that you are planning on doing this, and hope that you will reconsider, although I don't have great faith that you will. My only hope is that the current overseeing court will stop you, and if not, the Supreme Court will. This is not the country I love if either side has the deck stacked. Non-partisan redistricting is the answer.
4214		Aug 25 2017 11:17AM	Ms. Mary Garren	Let's make NC great again by not stacking the deck with either party. Only a fair and non-partisan voting map can truly represent NC voters. I want my neighbor's vote to count just as much as mine.
4215		Aug 25 2017 11:19AM	Mr. Brandon Trump	The illegal partisan mapmaking process that the NCGA has engaged in once again taking away the rights of voters in NC. Republicans have purposely wasted tax dollars on the same partisan mapmaker from Virginia and once again we have gerrymandered maps that lean heavily Republican that were released last minute without all the data. The GOP knows they cant win fair elections. We need a new non-partisan mapmaker from within the state of NC and this districts must be redrawn immediately.
4216		Aug 25 2017 11:46AM	Mr. David Brown	I want to state my objection the the recent redistricting process and the actual proposed redrawn districts. The process was not robust or transparent. I fact, it was the same as last time, performed by the same consultant with the same objectives. The result unsurprisingly is still a grossly biased (and likely unconstitutional) gerrymander that will further tarnish our State's reputation by appearing unwilling or unable to conduct fair elections. The only proper and patriotic method is NON-PARTISAN redistricting.
4217		Aug 25 2017 12:11PM	Grace Kelly	No to Senate Bill 691 and House Bill 927! They are not fair. North Carolina needs fair voting maps, similar to those in the state of Iowa. Enough of shenanigans by republicans! Democracy must win.
4218		Aug 25 2017 12:21PM	Ms. Kate Capehart	You've seen my name before, but I have to reiterate my intense disgust at the "new" maps. Since they were drawn by the same people who drew the excessively gerrymandered "old" ones, they're almost just as bad. And I'm not surprised. What I ask-- what I demand on behalf of all the citizens of North Carolina-- is a fair, bipartisan redistricting committee and a process whereby the citizenry can give their input and create new maps totally free of racial or partisan bias of any kind. Until that happens, you will continue to see my name and my face and many more.
4219		Aug 25 2017 12:21PM	Ms. Cynthia Britt	You have been elected to serve your constituents, not yourselves. Do you feel so inept & unethical you don't think you can win honestly? Then perhaps you should NOT be in office! Please start acting like grownups and create a fair, legal NC.
4220		Aug 25 2017 12:56PM	Mrs. Cynthia Tatum	I know both parties, Democrats and Republicans, gerrymandered voting districts in the past. It is time to put North Carolina citizens before party loyalty. We deserve fair independent redistricting. If you have to cheat to get elected what does that say about you? Fairness at the ballot box should be our top priority!!
4221		Aug 25 2017 12:59PM	Ms. Elisabeth Smith	I am opposed to the policy that the party in power gets to decide who draws the legislative maps. I am opposed to the fact that gerrymandering in any way, including political, is legal. I am offended by the sham of a public hearing that was given for constituent to weigh in on this issue that affects us. Legislative maps should be drawn by an independent third party.
4222		Aug 25 2017 12:59PM	Suzanna Hubbell	Gerrymandering for any reason is just plain wrong!! The people of NC deserve fair and impartial voting districts, based on neither race nor political gain, to ensure that all votes count. This is basic deocracy! Please hire a fair and imoartial entity to redraw the districts-- or the Courts will do it for you!!
4223		Aug 25 2017 1:09PM	Ms. REMY JAMES	Proposed maps show that protection of incumbents and securing Republican wins are more important to you than representing the true makeup of the state. Those are some ugly carved up city districts. You should be ashamed and embarrassed. Your dirty politics are still showing plainly in these maps. You couldn't even get a different provider to prepare them this time around? Go back to the drawing board, and while you are there, remind yourselves of the true principles of a democratic republic.
4224		Aug 25 2017 1:19PM	Ms. ANN WILLOUGHBY	I feel very strongly that the redistricting should not be done by either political party as the temptation to favor the party in power is too strong and has resulted in unfairness for many years. I believe that redistricting should be done by an impartial person or group so that elections can be fair to all.

4225		Aug 25 2017 1:29PM	Mr. Charles Bullock	I am a retired businessman. I'm a veteran. I served my country, I paid my taxes and I want my vote to count for something. The citizens of NC have the right to fair elections, to choose their representatives based on merit, not on politics. I call upon our legislature to help restore our democracy by ending partisan gerrymandering, once and for all. Give the people their voices back.
4226		Aug 25 2017 1:31PM	Ms. Cheri DeRosia	<p>The public hearings held on August 22 were ridiculous. I'm sure I'm not the only person who would have liked to attend and/or comment who could not because I had to be at work at that time.</p> <p>Stop gerrymandering. It wastes the taxpayers' money on legal fees defending the maps, and at the same time unfairly represents those same taxpayers in the legislature. Redistricting maps created by a non-partisan commission will eventually prevail. Until that happens, the legislators supporting the unfair maps are only demonstrating that they have no real interest in the welfare of the people of North Carolina.</p>
4227		Aug 25 2017 1:50PM	Ms. Nan Martin	Draw a map that is fair. Use non party affiliated people to do the drawing.
4228		Aug 25 2017 2:39PM	Ms. C Maddox	NC has just been labeled as a state that is no longer a Democracy. Ardently held ultra conservative interests have now overrun our legislative body and threaten all of us regardless of party affiliation. The Gerrymandering of districts is particularly odious, and MUST be rectified now.
4229		Aug 25 2017 3:08PM	Kenneth Reitz	The voting franchise is too sacrosanct an American right of citizenship to be left to the conflicts of interest and whims of political parties. It should be done by an independent commission. And, the idea that any party would intentionally mine data to create partisanship gerrymandered districts is repulsive. As most parents teach their children, just because something is legal to do, doesn't mean its the right thing to do. Show some spine and integrity for American ideals, show some courage that the party controlling the map-making is confident it can win the hearts of a majority of citizens in a district whose shape has five or fewer sides drawn based upon input from non-political independent election commission groups and without tortured snake-like districts that can only be explained by partisan politics. The political-gerrymandered districts that are proposed continue to be an embarrassment for and beneath the dignity deserved by the citizens of our State. Shame on you.
4230		Aug 25 2017 3:37PM	Mr. Jonathan McLean	The subject of redistricting has been THE number one concern for me for two years. Just by looking at any given district, it is very evident that the drawing of district boundaries has been highly calculated and arguably divisive regardless of issues of race. I implore you to create a process that will redraw districts as fair and balanced as possible. Redrawing the districts based solely on removing racial bias is NOT enough.
4231		Aug 25 2017 3:54PM	Mr. Alan Minker	We must have fair voting maps. I am an independent voter and I don't believe it is in the interest of democracy to set the redistricting in any way other than by logical geographical boundries. The redistricting should be managed by a non-partisan group to avoid either political party from trying to set up districts in their favor.
4232		Aug 25 2017 3:58PM	Mrs. Marianne Williams	How can legislators say they are representing the people of NC when they have to rig the system with first the present maps and now these proposed ones? If they are really doing the job of the people, why don't they just have districts that are neutral party-wise and geographically close. Neither the Dems or the Republicans should do this. What ever happened to free and fair elections?
4233		Aug 25 2017 4:00PM	Mr. Marcus Maxwell	<p>Dear Madame, Sir,</p> <p>it is plain that in several areas of both the House and Senate proposed redistricting maps, the constitutional violations are not cured and, indeed, the racially gerrymandering continues.</p> <p>Respectfully,</p>
4234		Aug 25 2017 4:18PM	Mrs. Barbara Gregg	Legislative districts must be drawn fairly, free of racial and partisan gerrymandering; otherwise, many voters are disenfranchised. Both parties in NC have been guilty of drawing maps to their advantage. NC is a two party state and both parties need to be fairly represented in our state government. The only way to achieve this is to establish a nonpartisan or independent redistricting commission. Twenty-one states have already done so. The legislature should not be choosing the voters; we should be choosing our representatives.
4235		Aug 25 2017 5:08PM	Ms. Ann Loreman	<p>I urge the General Assembly to serve the people of North Carolina in re-drawing our districts fairly.</p> <p>Any advantage gained by partisan maneuvering is sure to be short-lived and the people will long remember those who demonstrate their lack of character for doing the right thing.</p> <p>This isn't a game -- it's democracy!</p>
4236		Aug 25 2017 5:10PM	Teresa Lineback	I would like our districts to be created by a nonpartisan group of individuals and that the districts fairly reflect a nonpartisan population as much as possible.

4237		Aug 25 2017 5:46PM	Mary Mayer	Please! We need fair maps drawn by independent commissions. We need districts, no matter who draws them, to be compact, to avoid dividing communities and diluting minority votes. We need an increase in the number of competitive districts statewide. We need politicians who are accountable to the people they represent. That begins with fairly drawn maps. End gerrymandering! Obey the recent ruling of the courts
4238		Aug 25 2017 5:46PM	Katherine Rowe	I support a process for drawing political district maps that is fair and open, avoids racial or partisan gerrymandering, and allows voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around. We urge the N.C. General Assembly to support an independent redistricting process that follows those guiding principles.
4239		Aug 25 2017 6:09PM	Mr. Alan Rosenthal	Political gerrymandering has the same result as racial gerrymandering. To suggest that these maps are addressing the spirit of the law would be disingenuous. Whether it is the State trying to keep Democrats out or the City of Asheville trying to keep Republicans out, the process is simply wrong. Everyone gets a vote and everyone is disenfranchised. I prefer a process where everyone gets a vote and each vote counts.
4240		Aug 25 2017 6:20PM	John Taylor	Your attempt to comply with the Federal judge's orders and redraw gerrymandered districts in North Carolina is a joke! All you Republicans are shameful protectionists, trying to ensure that redrawn districts provide favorable voting majorities for incumbent Republican candidates. The Federal judges will recognize your actions for what they are... more gerrymandering! The judges will reject your attempt to remove illegal race-based districts and replace with districts lines favorable ONLY to Republican incumbents... Get back to work and reject your feeble effort and remove the politics from this effort. Do the right thing for ALL North Carolinian's. Republicans = Shameful Deceptive Protectionists! What a sham!
4241		Aug 25 2017 6:22PM	Patty Courtright	The process to revise North Carolina's voting districts to eliminate race as the key factor is crucial to our state, and to our democracy. The people of North Carolina deserve to know how the new proposed maps were developed, what data were used in redrawing the severely gerrymandered districts, and what the racial breakdown is. I am very concerned that the Republican committee in charge of redrawing the maps has done none of these things. There is no transparency or clarity, or even a basic explanation for the process the committee used. It's well past time to stop legislating in secret in our state. Thanks to the courts for trying to ensure that all voters have a voice in our government. Now it's up to members of the NC General Assembly, Republicans and Democrats alike, to do their part and take this mandate seriously and act conscientiously. Thank you.
4242		Aug 25 2017 6:41PM	Ms. Leesa Brieger	<p>The citizens of North Carolina are weary of the anti-democratic moves of this state's GOP. Gerrymandered districts - for racist considerations OR for party advantage - are not acceptable. Stop hampering the democratic process - it's time to work with all sides and create fair districts, acceptable to all.</p> <p>If GOP policies were so great for our state, it would not be necessary to cheat in order to remain in power. Why not try just governing fairly and justly, with the interests of our citizens at heart?! Then you won't have to cheat to stay in power - you'll just be elected fairly.</p> <p>In the meantime, the current tactics to cheat and stay in power despite democratic will are worthy of illegitimate, criminal gangs rather than the leaders of a state government. Knock it off and start acting like democratic leaders who respect the will of your constituents. You may not always get your way, but our state will certainly have a better chance of becoming a state of healthy, happy, successful citizens, democratically represented by their leaders.</p>
4243		Aug 25 2017 7:10PM	Dr. Tom Munk	As a long-citizen of North Carolina, I find it to be immoral, embarrassing, and un-American to see ridiculous-looking districts that I know are designed to ensure that our system is rigged to favor white Republicans.
4244		Aug 25 2017 8:05PM	Ms. Catherine Schaller	With each passing day, I am more embarrassed to live in North Carolina. Our legislature has become the laughing stock of US politics. And it all began with redistricting after the 2000 census. Every redistricting map the Republican lawmakers touched (along with their hired Republican strategist), was designed to tilt the election scales vastly in the direction of white Republicans. That gave the GOP lawmakers the freedom to combine racial gerrymandering with anti-voter Monster Law that targeted African Americans with almost "surgical precision." The resulting government is stacked against the electorate and good sense. Poor policy, absurd budgeting, an anti-education agenda, and a complete lack of transparency are the outcomes. I urge you to consider a fair and even-handed, non-partisan method to draw district lines. Our vote is too important -- our state is too important. Take the first step to restoring our North Carolina to greatness! Thank you. Sincerely, Catherine Schaller

4245		Aug 25 2017 9:10PM	Ms. Lekha Shupeck	<p>The maps submitted to the public on the 19th of August, 2017 are woefully insufficient to the task mandated by the court.</p> <p>In the first place, the court has ruled that several districts are unconstitutional racial gerrymanders. And yet, the redistricting committee has seen fit to make no use of racial data in drawing its districts. How then can the committee know whether or not racial gerrymanders have been created? Or whether or not the new maps comply with Section 2 of the VRA? How can the NCGA meet the court's requirement to point out and explain the reasoning behind the creation of any districts with over 50% Black Voting Age Population if, ostensibly, no racial data was used or is available?</p> <p>These maps are clearly a farce. Republicans on the committee wish to drag litigation out for as long as possible so that they can reach 2018 elections with their gerrymanders intact. I would urge the court to reject these maps and either adopt plaintiff's maps or appoint an independent, non-partisan commission to draw maps. The NCGA has clearly shown itself to be unable to create fair maps or use a fair process.</p>
4246		Aug 25 2017 9:32PM	Mr. Glenn Fink	<p>I have not been following all the details of the redistricting activity. It would be nice to know the all the criteria being used to draw the new districts. Based on what I have seen it is not clear. I know one of them is to win more republican elections. My concern is there seems to be a bias toward strong constitutional principled members being placed at risk by double bunking or being pushed out of their current district based on no longer living in the new boundaries. Examples of these being Rep Pittman & Sen Cook. Rep Speciale will have a tougher time keeping his seat by losing Pamlico county. I ask you to evaluate the impact of current boundaries and protect those general assembly members that are really working to protect we the people.</p>
4247		Aug 26 2017 12:02AM	Ms. Chris Chato	<p>The new redistricting maps are no better than the old ones. Please give us fair districts!</p>
4248		Aug 26 2017 1:30AM	Ms. Susan Glover	<p>I don't want Sen. Cook and Rep. Pittman to be put in districts that are unfavorable to their views.</p>
4249		Aug 26 2017 6:55AM	Ms. Trish Glemba	<p>These maps have been redrawn by the same joker who did the UNCONSTITUTIONAL ones...you need better perspective!! DO IT RIGHT</p>
4250		Aug 26 2017 7:02AM	Mrs. Judy Varter	<p>I support a process for drawing political district maps that is fair and open, avoids racial or partisan gerrymandering, and allows voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around. We urge the N.C. General Assembly to support an independent redistricting process that follows those guiding principles.</p>
4251		Aug 26 2017 7:04AM	Dr. Melinda Rosenbaum	<p>I am embarrassed and disgusted by the continued manipulation of the redistricting process. Our leaders are supposed to represent our interests and values, not push their own ideologies. If a fairly-drawn district isn't comprised of people who would elect you for your ideas, then you're not the right person for that district. This is a Democracy! Let us choose our own representatives, not the other way around.</p>
4252		Aug 26 2017 8:07AM	Ms. Lauren Nelson	<p>These latest maps were drawn by the SAME people who created the unconstitutional maps, and the maps clearly continue to support their agenda, which was intended to suppress the vote (by reweighting mine so that it is meaningless) and stalls our democratic process. We need a bipartisan process moving forward so that the actual number of votes matches the outcome. I oppose this continued gerrymandering by these thieves!!</p>
4253		Aug 26 2017 8:32AM	Mr. Robert Peterson	<p>It's simple: voters should pick their representatives, not the other way around.</p> <p>As a North Carolina native, it is distressing to see the current crop of lawmakers work to disenfranchise numerous citizens due to the color of their skin. If you're certain that your way is right, then it will prevail. Otherwise, the extreme gerrymanders of 2011 smack of payback for your rich benefactors at the expense of democracy.</p> <p>In a fair world, legislative districts would be draw by non-partisan teams. Each district would have equal population. Regions and cities wouldn't be split for the sake of one party or the other. Communities deserve to pick their representatives through fair and equal elections.</p>

4254		Aug 26 2017 9:22AM	Mr. Michael Connolly	Shame on you, GOP legislators in Raleigh! You have rejected your commitment to government “for the common good.” You insist on designing government for your own private interests. You hired the consultant who crafted the racially gerrymandered maps that were declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court to create the current ones. You gave Democratic Members of the General Assembly no chance to provide input on these new maps. You openly acknowledged that one of your goals in redrawing voting districts was protecting GOP incumbents. You gave us little time to review the new maps and the data used to design them before scheduling time for public comment. This is a mockery of the democratic process, a process which requires voters to pick lawmakers, not lawmakers to pick voters. North Carolinians have spoken: We want to pick our lawmakers. And to do that we need fair non-partisan redistricting maps. It is time for you to take seriously the words of one of our country’s Founding Fathers: “Government is instituted for the common good; for the protection, safety, prosperity, and happiness of the people; and not for profit, honor, or private interest of any one man, family, or class of men....” John Adams
4255		Aug 26 2017 9:24AM	Mr. Lars Simonsen	With each passing day, it becomes increasingly clear that the president, and his party, the republican party, are willing to stand with white supremacists in order to further the party's political goals. The courts have determined that the republican legislature's "vote integrity" laws (voter id, changes to early and sunday voting) were racially discriminatory, and that much of the redistricting was racially discriminatory. Now, the leader of the republican party, President Trump, has demonstrated himself to be willing to pardon racists, aligns himself with white supremacists and neo-nazis, and is recognized by the KKK and nazis as "their president." The court ordered redistricting is the opportunity for the republicans in North Carolina to demonstrate that they are not aligned with racists and the interests of white supremacists. I would urge you to adopt districts that fairly apportion voting rights in a way that gives all North Carolinians, regardless of race, ethnicity, or party, their right to vote and their ability to participate in a genuine way in the democratic process.
4256		Aug 26 2017 9:30AM	Ms. Stefanie Bullard	Please redraw NC legislative voting maps with a bipartisan group of legislators so that our US democratic voting process is fair for every North Carolinian regardless of political affiliation. Thank you!
4257		Aug 26 2017 10:02AM	Diane Vaught	EVERY vote must count! If you are right, let voters vote based on your legislative actions.
4258		Aug 26 2017 10:28AM	Mrs. Julie Colby	I think its time we make political gerrymandering a thing of the past. This "they did it, so it's ok if we do it" is very immature and needs to stop. I think it's time we all grow up and make redistricting a non-partisan priority. If you have to cheat to win, then maybe your party is the problem. not the voters!
4259	House			
4260		Jul 26 2017 7:14PM	Ms. Barbara Hughes	Please give each voter a fair consideration when voting in NC! End Gerrymandering.
4261		Jul 26 2017 8:37PM	Ms. Donna Woosterfaleigh	Lawmakers choosing to divide the citizenry to their advantage is wrong. Wrong when Dems did it. Wrong when GOP did it. It cheapens and demeans the election process. Stop it.
4262		Jul 27 2017 6:25AM	Desiree Clemons	Please draw non partisan voting districts for our democracy's sake.
4263		Jul 27 2017 9:04AM	Ms. Margaret Raitz	Gerrymandering is an ugly part of our political history and should stay way back in our history.
4264		Jul 28 2017 11:55AM	Mr. Christopher Fulmer	Ladies and Gentlemen, When redistricting, please (a) use race as a factor only to the minimum extent necessary to comply with law, and (b) gerrymander as far as legally permitted to tilt as many districts as possible toward Republicans. If you can improve on the current ratio, that would be wonderful.
4265		Jul 31 2017 8:44AM	Ms. Donna Kaye	I am outraged that the Republicans are in violation of drawing fair districts by first dragging their feet to address this and more importantly, by using the same consultant, Tom Hofeller who drew the unconstitutional maps to begin with. If Mr. Hofeller was acting in good faith, he would include Democratic members as part of the redrawing. I strongly advocate for a bi-partisan redistricting commission to redraw these maps.
4266		Aug 2 2017 7:25AM	Robin Buchanan	Eliminate the so-called non-partisan commission and replace it with computer software developed in the public domain so that it can be reviewed for accuracy. Draw the US House districts without influence of race, party, sex or any other factor.
4267		Aug 3 2017 2:16AM	Mrs. Lara McKinnon	Partisan gerrymandering is like deflating footballs. We all know the it is wrong because it creates an unfair advantage. Tom Brady's 4 game suspension and teams \$1,000,000 fine was only compounded by everyone knowing he had resorted to cheating in order to win. How satisfying it must have been to win this years Super Bowl, and have no one doubt his abilities. Stop deflating footballs, and just draw fair maps.
4268		Aug 3 2017 6:38PM	Mrs. Evelyn Coltman	Fairly redistrict without delay.

4269		Aug 3 2017 9:16PM	Ms. Jennifer Smyth	The House map is a flagrant effort to split the vote in NENC. Hertford, Bertie, and Gates Counties have much more in common with Northampton and Halifax than with Hyde, Chowan, and Currituck. Keep us with our neighbors instead of trying to dilute our votes with those from counties where rich folks buy homes for their retirement. Have y'all even been to Edenton lately? Sotheby's is the most prominent realtor, for Pete's sake. SOTHEBY'S. Half of their downtown is antiques, wine and cheese, jewelry, or interior design. It's a completely different world, and those of us who live and work in the poorer part of NENC deserve representation that addresses OUR issues. Get out of here with this mess, and quit trying to dilute the votes of poor folks (many of color) with those of the rich (mostly white). We see you.
4270		Aug 4 2017 7:02AM	Stephanie Agniel	I strongly support fair and nonpartisan voting districts to be drawn.
4271		Aug 4 2017 8:50AM	Dr. Michael Justice	I feel elected officials should NOT be the ones to draw district lines, I feel as though they would draw those lines in a very partisan way. They have access to how and where they vote. And would just add to gerrymandering fashion. Maybe a computer algorithm or something like that.
4272		Aug 4 2017 9:59AM	Mrs. Cassie Blackwelder	The redistricting should be completed by a bipartisan group to prevent racial and political gerrymandering. For too long the Democrats and Republicans have utilized gerrymandering to stay in power and ignore the will of the people. Their constituents deserve to be heard and the only way that will happen is if the districts are drawn by an unbiased source. The process should be open to both political parties, regardless of who is in power, to encourage transparency and a fair race.
4273		Aug 4 2017 10:06AM	Daniel Orr	Why haven't you submitted a Bill to require the use of a program that creates geographical areas based on the most circular shape. 120 for the State House, 50 for the state Senate and 13 for the Federal House. That way it is completely based on population (thus democracy) and not political affiliations or race or wealth. Let's fix gerrymandering once and for all and be an example for the other states.
4274		Aug 4 2017 10:11AM	Bessie Goodson	Put it back to where it was before. N. C. needs to see that everyone is being represented.
4275		Aug 4 2017 11:10AM	Ms. Jeanette Van Vickie	As you move forward in the redistricting process please 1) provide a transparent non-partisan process with many opportunities for meaningful comment, 2) use impartial criteria to not only rectify the racial gerrymandering but also fix the political gerrymandering (do not use addresses of Incumbents or potential candidates) and 3) redefine the redistricting committee to fix the imbalance of Democrats and Republicans. I am disgusted by the hijacking of our Democracy by the legislatures intentional racial and political gerrymandering and subsequent Republican corruption.
4276		Aug 4 2017 11:47AM	Mr. Sam Grundman	Keep the districts competitive! That's the only way to keep our democracy strong. Put a nonpartisan board in charge of the process!
4277		Aug 5 2017 2:39PM	Mrs. Carla Harrell	We in the 5th District ask that you keep the Roanoke Chowan Area (Hertford, Bertie and Gates) in the same district.
4278		Aug 5 2017 2:40PM	Mrs. Wanda Hunter	We in the 5th District ask that you keep the Roanoke Chowan Area (Hertford, Bertie and Gates) in the same district.
4279		Aug 5 2017 2:41PM	Ms. Cindy Ruffin	We in the 5th District ask that you keep the Roanoke Chowan Area (Hertford, Bertie and Gates) in the same district.
4280		Aug 5 2017 3:26PM	Dr. Heather Simon	The house should use the following criteria when designing new maps: 1) districts should be as compact as possible. Districts should be drawn to minimize the perimeter of all districts. 2) Maps should minimize districts that split counties or municipalities (cities, towns, townships). Within county groupings, the house should create municipality groupings to minimize district lines crossing municipal boundaries. 3) districts should be contiguous 4) criteria should EXCLUDE any consideration on past election results or political party registration data
4281		Aug 6 2017 8:38AM	Jo-Dee Collins	Partisan gerrymandering is like deflating footballs. We all know the it is wrong because it creates an unfair advantage. Tom Brady's 4 game suspension and teams \$1,000,000 fine was only compounded by everyone knowing he had resorted to cheating in order to win. How satisfying it must have been to win this years Super Bowl, and have no one doubt his abilities. Stop deflating footballs, and just draw a fair map.
4282		Aug 9 2017 1:59PM	Mrs. Evelyn Poole-Kober	NC District 50 I believe the map would be more equitable by adding Caswell to 50 and the Town of Hillsborough proper while putting Patterson, Weaver Dairy, Cedar Falls, Booker Creek and Eastside into the Chapel Hill proper district. Please don't add St. Johns of Hogan Farms to District 50).
4283		Aug 9 2017 8:53PM	Mr. Christopher Charland	As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.

4284		Aug 10 2017 3:38PM	Bonnie Morrison	<p>As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering.</p> <p>We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.</p>
4285		Aug 19 2017 4:18PM	Ms. Cornelia Whittlesey	<p>Please take heed.</p> <p>I saw a proposed district map that showed a district from Pittman in Cabarrus County to a small area around Ford in Rowan County. That's crazy to have such a small area and population in Rowan in a separate district. Rowan County should only have two districts. Follow county lines.</p>
4286		Aug 19 2017 6:13PM	Mrs. Deborah Williams	<p>I reviewed the proposed map for the 65th. I would prefer to see all of Rockingham County in one district. As opposed to the Western region absorbed into the Stokes county majority. Personally, I don't have anything in common with Stokes county and rarely visit t here. So I can't understand the logic in how the lines are drawn. Thanks!</p>
4287		Aug 21 2017 7:42AM	Mr. Terry Mann	<p>As Mayor of Whiteville the County Seat of Columbus County I request you reconsider dividing Columbus County into two House districts. The eastern part of our county would be placed with Pender County. With their growth from the Wilmington area it would be hard for our County to get much attention from whoever should represent that section of the County. Columbus County is one of the eastern North Carolina counties that is suffering and we need to have a single representative so we can be united on what might help us improve or economic situation.</p>
4288		Aug 21 2017 8:15AM	Mrs. Jennifer Holcomb	<p>It is critically important for Columbus County's future to remain intact when it comes to our House district. Please reconsider dividing our county.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
4289		Aug 21 2017 3:17PM	Mrs. Stephanie Miller	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I am very concerned over the proposed redistricting for Columbus County. Regardless of anyone's political party affiliation, this change would be detrimental to our county. We need strong representatives who care about and who need support from the county they are serving to be successful. With all due respect, please revisit this proposal and do not divide Columbus County!</p> <p>Best regards, Stephanie Miller</p>
4290		Aug 21 2017 6:34PM	Mrs. Cheryl Thomas	<p>The definition of gerrymander per dictionary.com is "to manipulate boundaries of an electoral constituency so as to favor one party or class." This appears to be the case in Cabarrus County. Not manipulation between parties, but within one. Even though the districts in our county were not ordered to be redrawn, they have been drastically changed, with the result being that two of the top conservative house members (Pittman and Ford) in adjoining counties have now been combined into one district. This would result in the loss of at least one member, if not both.</p> <p>Government is to be "... of the people, by the people, FOR THE PEOPLE..." The purpose of redistricting is to give fair representation to all people, and not to carve out special districts to favor/disadvantage current/future politicians.</p> <p>I object to the redistricting in Cabarrus County for the following reasons:</p> <p>(1.) Under the current map, Cabarrus County has two complete districts in our county uniting the voice of our constituents. Now District 83 has been redrawn to include a portion of Rowan County. Has the population decreased so that there is no justification for our county to fill two complete districts? If not, the lines should be redrawn so that our residents have representatives that can speak for the unique needs of Cabarrus County residents.</p> <p>(2.) The line between Districts 82 and 83 should be drawn east to west and not north to south. Because Kannapolis is in Cabarrus and Rowan County, I agree that there is some justification for joining this area on the northern border of Cabarrus County so that one representative can cover the entire city and all areas west of Interstate 85. But if you do</p>

4291		Aug 21 2017 9:22PM	Mr. Justin Smith	<p>I am writing regarding the 2017 House Redistricting Plan, which almost evenly divides Columbus County into two districts. Given its population of 58,098, Columbus County - in totality - has an ideal population to continue serving as the base for a a House District.</p> <p>Under the proposed plan, I am concerned that a large portion of Columbus County is added to Pender County to form House District 16. The incumbent in this district resides approximately 1 hour and 10 minutes from the Columbus County seat of Whiteville. And the most direct driving route would take him through New Hanover and Brunswick counties before reaching Columbus. Pender and Columbus County have little geographic connection and their shared cultural and socioeconomic factors are diminishing given Pender County's status as one of the state's fastest growing counties thanks to its beaches and proximity to Wilmington and Jacksonville/Camp Lejeune.</p> <p>Columbus County's communities disproportionately suffer from a struggling economy, which affects many aspects of life including public health and education. Only through solidarity and strong representation, both of which are currently in place, will the county improve its trajectory.</p>																							
4292		Aug 22 2017 3:30AM	Mr. Jerry Reinoehl	<p>Thank you for providing the opportunity to comment on the proposed redistricting of the North Carolina General House of Representatives.</p> <p>I support the House redistricting plan for Cumberland County, my county of residence, for the following reasons:</p> <p>1) The number of split VTDs between 2 or more districts in Cumberland County is reduced from 31 of 77 precincts to 6 of 77 precincts. The plan confines the splits to between only 2 house districts while current plan includes several VTDs split between 3 house districts.</p> <p>2) The boundaries of House District 43, my district, is tightened up considerably to look more like an ink spot rather than ink splatter.</p> <p>Believe the benefit of these changes to Cumberland County will result in:</p> <p>1) Fewer ballot types which may reduce the cost of elections.</p> <p>2) It will reduce opportunities for poll workers to make errors in selecting the correct ballot and should result in fewer spoiled ballots and more accurate contest results with more voters using the correct ballot type.</p> <p>3) May provide better constituent representation with tighter district boundaries.</p> <p>4) Will benefit candidates for the House of Representatives by reducing the number of precincts and possible election campaign costs to conduct a competitive campaign. District redesign should make it easier for GOTV activities such as door knocking and neighborhood walks. Lower campaign costs could be an enticement to attract additional citizens to run for election to the House of Representatives.</p>																							
4293		Aug 22 2017 7:29AM	Mr. Robert Gray	<p>Please keep Columbus County as one District. We will never be able to adequately field a candidate of either party. Columbus County has traditionally provided hard working responsible representatives.</p>																							
4294		Aug 22 2017 7:44AM	Mr. David Harrison	<p>RE: H82 /83 / 67</p> <p>As an 18 year resident of south-western Cabarrus (Prec.01-04), I hope I confidently can speak for the families of this area that we would be thrilled and honored with Rep. Linda Johnson as our voice in Raleigh.</p> <p>However, in what might be termed `reverse gerrymandering,` while the plan keeps the current "3 House member" arrangement for Cabarrus, it awkwardly jams Ford and Pittman into central Concord / Kannapolis, and -- to meet the goal of approx. 81,000 residents -- extends the territory of H-67 (Burr, Stanley) rather deep into eastern and certainly across southern Cabarrus, making for a rather `far flung` configuration away from the Albemarle core of that district.</p> <p>Further, the population density of western Cabarrus is growing at such a rapid pace that the proposal will not remain stable for long, before adjustments will be needed. The boundaries of H-67 (Burr, Stanley) soon will have to be revised (affecting H-82 and/or H-83).</p> <p>Many thanks to all legislators and staff for your dedication and effort on this proposal, and for the opportunity to comment!</p> <p>Municipality District Total Muni Pop / Total District Pop / Muni Pop in District / Percent of Muni Pop in District / Percent of District Pop in Muni</p> <table><tr><td>Harrisburg</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>67</td><td>11,526</td><td>82,761</td><td>3,156</td><td>27.38%</td><td>3.81%</td></tr><tr><td>82</td><td>11,526</td><td>81,088</td><td>8,335</td><td>72.31%</td><td>10.28%</td></tr><tr><td>83</td><td>11,526</td><td>81,172</td><td>35</td><td>0.30%</td><td>0.04%</td></tr></table>	Harrisburg						67	11,526	82,761	3,156	27.38%	3.81%	82	11,526	81,088	8,335	72.31%	10.28%	83	11,526	81,172	35	0.30%
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4295		Aug 22 2017 9:55AM	Mr. Terry Mahaffey	<p>House districts 36, 37, and 41 divide up the Apex municipality. At around 50,000 people, Apex is the 3rd largest municipality in Wake after Raleigh and Cary and deserves it's own representative. As it stands, it's a victim of partisan gerrymandering, having it's left leaning districts sliced into a district centered in Cary and it's center to right leaning precincts divided between two right leaning districts primarily representing other parts of Southern Wake.</p> <p>This is a disservice to the citizens of Apex. I ask that you abandon your attempt at partisan gerrymandering in this area, and instead create a single competitive district centered on Apex.</p>
4296		Aug 22 2017 10:33AM	Mr. Dennis Jones	<p>I want to voice my disappointment and concern with the new redistricting proposal that will affect my community. District 46 currently includes all of Columbus County and part of Robeson and Bladen counties. It is vitally important that all of Columbus county remain as part of District 46 and not splint in half. We have been building and growing economic and political coalitions in Columbus county that are essential to have a real voice in Raleigh. To divide our county between two districts and representatives would undermine the progress made and be detrimental to Columbus County residents. I ask that you review this and make changes necessary to keep Columbus county whole in District 46. Rep. Brenden Jones is doing an outstanding job representing us currently and we look forward to his continued service.</p> <p>Regards, Dennis Jones</p>
4297		Aug 22 2017 10:36AM	Mr. Matthew McLean	<p>The proposal of the house redistricting of Columbus County is completely unacceptable. Our Columbus County community has made great strides since Hurricane Matthew to begin moving in a positive direction under the leadership of Brendan Jones. We need a representative from our area to continue to improve on our local economy. The areas of Pender County and Columbus County couldn't be any more different in terms of the economic development of the area. Please reconsider this proposal. We are finally making strides. Don't take our legs out from under us now.</p>
4298		Aug 22 2017 10:49AM	Mr. Carlton Williamson	<p>Please add my name to those in Columbus County (and pehaps Pender County, too) that strongly oppose the proposed plan to split Columbus County's House district and make the eastern portion of Columbus part of the Pender County District. Though sparse in population (approx 55,000) relative to its physical size, Columbus is the 3rd largest county in the state. It should have a single Representative. Thank you.</p>
4299		Aug 22 2017 12:11PM	Mr. Stephen M Smith	<p>Re: Columbus County I am strongly opposed to the proposed redistricting , moving the northeastern two-thirds of Columbus County, including the county seat of Whiteville, and the municipalities of Brunswick, Lake Waccamaw, Riegelwood and Sandyfield, in to House District 16 with Pender County. District 16 would be comprised by 64% of Pender County residents, and would hardly give a Columbus County resident a chance at being elected to the N.C. House for that seat. For as long as I know, Columbus County has had a resident Legislature. Columbus County is the third largest physical county in the State, but one of the poorest. We need a fair opportunity for a resident member of the House. The District 16 incumbent resides in Hampstead, which is 69 miles from the county seat of Whiteville. Hampstead is just a few miles from the New Hanover County line, and economically and culturally is a northern suburb of Wilmington. Columbus and Pender counties have little or no existing relationships, and this is not a good cultural or economic fit. I also want to comment on the lack of transparency in this process. It was very difficult to find out where the satellite public hearings would be held,up until August 22, even after a thorough web search. Also, I have still not been able to find any street-level maps of proposed District 16. This is very important due to the odd configuration of the lines in Columbus County. It appears that Southeastern Community College would be in District 16. The incumbent District 46 House member sits on that Board of Trustees. Southeastern Community College needs to be in District 46 with Whiteville, the county seat, and all the other municipalities.</p> <p>I came to the conclusion that the District 16 configuration in Columbus resembles a thumbs down depiction (actually two thumbs down), which is symbolic. All of Columbus County needs to reside in House District 46.</p>

4300		Aug 22 2017 12:33PM	Timothy Buck	<p>RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE 2017 HOUSE REDISTRICTING PLAN THAT PLACES PAMLICO COUNTY IN HOUSE DISTRICT 6</p> <p>WHEREAS, on or about August 18, 2017, the North Carolina General Assembly released 2017 House Redistricting Plan; and</p> <p>WHEREAS, the plan placed Pamlico County in House District 6 that includes Hyde, Dare, and Currituck Counties; and</p> <p>WHEREAS, the Pamlico River and Pamlico Sound separate Pamlico County from other counties in House District 6 such that it is not contiguous to any other county within the proposed district; and</p> <p>WHEREAS, the current representative of House District 6 resides approximately 3 hours drive time from Pamlico County; and</p> <p>WHEREAS, due to geographic barriers, Pamlico County has little commonality with other counties within the new district regarding issues such as transportation, economic development, and infrastructure; and</p> <p>WHEREAS, factors cited above diminish the fair representation of Pamlico County; and</p> <p>WHEREAS, the proposed 2017 Senate Redistricting Plan places Pamlico County in Senate District 2 that also includes Carteret and Craven Counties; and</p> <p>WHEREAS, proposed Senate District 2 provides fairer representation for Pamlico County regarding issues such as transportation, economic development, and infrastructure.</p>
4301		Aug 22 2017 1:41PM	Ms. Susan Thomas	<p>Even though Cabarrus County's districts was not ordered to be re-drawn, they were drastically changed. From comparing before-and-after maps, it's not difficult to imagine that these new lines were gerrymandered by the establishment Republicans to silence conservatives. The results are that (1) two of the top conservative voices in the house (Pittman and Ford) are now within the same district and would be forced to run against one another, thus eliminating a conservative voice; (2) Johnson, who was on the committee, has a neat, compact district; and (3) the City of Concord (which already has concentrated representation on the County Commission) now is more compact. What next? Will one of the commissioners or City Council members who has failed to maintain our current schools, allowed rampant building while ignoring the infrastructure, and increased our debt want to replace that conservative voice and run to represent us in Raleigh?</p> <p>I'm here to add one more voice of dissent to this blatantly self-</p>
4302		Aug 22 2017 2:21PM	Dr. Randall Thomas	<p>I adamantly oppose the proposed redistricting of Cabarrus County. It is unreasonable to add precincts from Rowan County. This district cracking results in a dilution of the representation of our county. Precinct 1 is a populated and growing area of Cabarrus County and these residents deserve representation within our county. It is incomprehensible that if our county has sufficient population to warrant two districts, that the two largest cities in our county cannot retain representation within our county. You've managed to do that for Mecklenburg and Wake Counties, so surely you can afford Cabbarus County the same treatment. Instead of adding another county's voting area to ours, you should consider adding Precinct 4 to Rowan County because Kannapolis borders both counties.</p> <p>There are currently three house seats in Cabarrus County. This redistricting unfairly punishes the majority of citizens of Cabarrus County by denying each district the opportunity to reelect their current representative. We have invested considerable time and money cultivating relationships with our representatives and expressing our concerns. Now you want to remove all of this and assign us new districts?!</p> <p>The proposed redistricting map is not detailed enough to allow citizens to determine the actual assignments, but I would like to formally request that you provide me (based on the information you used): the number of Cabarrus County voters who would maintain their current representation, the total number of voters in Cabarrus County, and the total number of Cabarrus County voters who would maintain representation with Rep. Johnson. I think this information should be made available to all the citizens of Cabarrus County.</p> <p>As the ninth largest county in North Carolina, I do not know what</p>
4303		Aug 22 2017 3:05PM	Ms. Lauren Eighmy	<p>The fact that your maps, still are racist? Is disgusting. How in hell are you supposed to help make it easier for Black people if even the maps are fuckin racist? Seriously? Get your shit together.</p>
4304		Aug 22 2017 3:54PM	Mr. Rod Chaney	<p>Please Take St. John and Hogan Farm precincts out of NC House 50 and plus them NC House 56 where they belong. These 2 precincts should not have more say so than Caswell County. Simple and more fair than the way they are currentlv proposed.</p>

4305		Aug 22 2017 4:01PM	Ms. Dana Jennings	In reviewing the proposed map to reconfigure many districts, I am struck at how, once again, there are configurations that defy logic. What is the thinking behind the odd patterns in Wake, Mecklenberg, and Guilford counties? Why does part of the district covering Lenoir county reach up in a nonsymetrical way into Pitt County? What is the thinking behind district 21 that snakes through Wayne and Sampson Counties? This does not seem to me to be the product of good faith efforts. I say back to the drawing board.
4306		Aug 22 2017 6:07PM	joanie alexander	Hope these new districts are non-partisan and, of course, not racially districted. Do it right - the right to vote is what makes democracy worthwhile. Joanie Alexander
4307		Aug 22 2017 6:46PM	Mr. William Pope	Please consider the possibility that Proposed District 16 has the effect of disenfranchising the residents of north central and eastern Columbus County. There's very little in common between these folk and the wealthy residents of coastal Pender County. A representative would spend her/his time catering to the major population areas and moneved areas
4308		Aug 22 2017 7:14PM	Rita Gregory	The counties in northeastern NC (Dare, Currituck, Camden, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Chowan)work in unison for economic development, services for senior adults, community college, and many other programs. The house plan divides these counties into 3 different districts. Will devastate the ability to receive grants, etc.. These are tiny counties too! Should not have been hard to keep them together.
4309		Aug 22 2017 7:15PM	Mr. Elliott Willingham	There is a large difference in the House Rep districts 99 and 67. It looks similar to a fat cat that my neighbor had growing up. Rep Moore,the incumbent in Charlotte, lives at least 50 mins from Albemarle where Rep. Burr lives. This cannot be in the best interest for any of the voters involved. This cannot best serve residents in Oakboro, Locust, Midland or Hickory Grove, Robinson Church, Mint Hill or Idlewild. How might a representative of this district effectively vote on key issuws related to school funding, business development, transportation, land use, environmental protection (both urban and rural) and many other issues that require deliberate thought, discernment and consensus building that are important to all of our citizens?
4310		Aug 23 2017 9:14AM	Mr. Jerry Reinoehl	Please accept these comments as my revised input on August 22, 2017 with both on-line and Fayetteville FTCC public hearing comments. Thank you for providing the opportunity for citizen input on the proposed redistricting of the North Carolina General Assembly House of Representatives. I am not representing any organization. These comments are based upon an analysis of several public documents. 1) Cumberland County Board of Elections document titled Jurisdictions by Precinct dated July 26, 2017. This document provides a listing of the 77 Cumberland County precincts and the respective local, state, and federal office jurisdictions for each precinct. 2) House Redistricting Plan 3) House Split VTD details I support the House redistricting plan for Cumberland County, my county of residence, for the following reasons: 1) The number of split VTDs between 2 or more districts in Cumberland County is reduced from 31 of 77 precincts under the current 2011 district assignments to 6 of 77 precincts under the proposed plan. The proposed plan confines the splits to only 2 house districts while the current plan includes several VTDs split between 3 house districts. 2) The boundaries of House District 43, my district, is tightened up considerably to look more like an ink spot rather than ink splatter. Believe the benefit of these changes to Cumberland County will result

4311		Aug 23 2017 4:52PM	Mrs. Beth Bucksot	<p>I am the secretary for the Pamlico County Chamber of Commerce and the Director of Economic Development for Pamlico County. Pamlico County Government and Pamlico County Chamber of Commerce both oppose the proposed house redistricting plan. The letter below explains the Chamber of Commerce concern. The resolution below explains our County's concern.</p> <p>August 22, 2017</p> <p>Honorable Sirs and Madams,</p> <p>We thank you for taking the time to gather input from local towns, counties, individuals and agencies that would be impacted by the proposed House District lines. This is a very important matter that impacts every citizen in the State of North Carolina. We request that due to the inadequacies listed below, you reconsider the proposed redistricting plan, and leave our district as is or, at the very least, leave Pamlico County in a district with Craven County.</p> <p>We understand that the parameters you have been given to set new districts are extremely difficult to meet. However, we as citizens and businesses of Pamlico County, as well as, many of our surrounding neighbors, have grave concerns regarding the current House Redistricting proposal and its impact on the historic, economic, social, and civic wellbeing of our communities.</p> <p>If you move forward with this proposed district, which includes our county, there will be severe impact on small rural economically distressed communities, including minority communities in our county and surrounding counties. Many of these communities already lack an adequate electoral voice due to low population counts.</p>
4312		Aug 24 2017 2:50PM	Mrs. Cheryl Thomas	<p>In addition, contiguous counties within current districts have long been split apart. I am very disappointed with the late release of the proposed house redistricting map, the lack of details provided about the precinct assignments, the very limited amount of time to respond, and the lack of proper notification to North Carolina citizens to provide their input.</p> <p>I understand that redistricting is necessary and complicated. I appreciate the work that has been done to compact voting precincts and allow for contiguity. However, the consequences of the proposed redistricting map disproportionately disadvantages the citizens of Cabarrus County and should be reevaluated.</p> <p>Because the proposed redistricting map does not disclose the specific precincts and a map of Rowan County's precincts was not available online, I had to use the tools available to me: the November 2016 election results on the NC Board of Elections website and a State House Districts of Cabarrus County, NC online map. I had to use estimates and guess at the proposed precinct assignments.</p> <p>From the NCBOE website, I estimate that around 10% of the current Cabarrus County residents will be allowed to reelect their current House representative. When you consider that we have 132,505 registered voters, that means that almost 120,000 voters will be denied the right to continue with our current representative. This means we will suffer a loss of influence. We will lose the consistency of our elected representatives - whose terms range from 3 to 9. It also disadvantages us by putting us in a conflicted situation. How do we know that our current representative will be voting in our best interest and not in the best interest of his/her future constituency? Will our representatives have as much time to promote our interests if they have to campaign and raise funds in new areas? How many other counties will have almost 120,000 voters - or even 90% of their voters</p>

4313		Aug 24 2017 3:51PM	Mrs. Jacky Mallory	Public Hearings on Redistricting Core Messages North Carolinians Demand Reform We are tired of politicians rigging elections to reduce competition and protect themselves from being held accountable. We demand a government of, by and for the people. (1) A new poll shows that four out of five North Carolina voters (80%) say it’s not fair for politicians to draw their own districts. That includes 85% of Democrats, 74% of Republicans, 80% of independents – as well as 70% of Trump supporters and 80% of African Americans. (2) The redistricting process must be open, avoid racial or partisan gerrymandering, and allow voters to pick their political representatives, not the other way around. A Sham Redistricting Process Is Insulting. Legislative leaders continue to stall and avoid fixing their unconstitutional maps. They: (1) hired the same consultant (Thomas Hofeller) who drew the current illegal maps. He is nationally known for rigging maps to help his Republican clients. (2) declared they would not consider the race of voters, as if that would stop them from drawing biased maps. In fact, that approach ignores the directive of the courts to examine whether black voters have a fair chance to elect candidates of their choice in the new districts. (3) declared they would consider past election outcomes and the ability of their party to win elections in the new districts. They admit they drew districts for partisan advantage. (4) refused to reveal the new maps until just before this hearing – and then didn’t provide data about registration or race to fully analyze the maps. This process is a charade. New Maps Attempt to Protect an Illegal Legislature. Legislators elected from illegal districts have created new maps to
4314		Aug 24 2017 4:15PM	Mr. Tony Moore	I am trying to find out which section of Winterville is not in the 9th House District. I have gone to Hearing. How can someone speak on the proposed district without knowing the proposed district? My cell is 252 341-7457
4315		Aug 24 2017 10:47PM	Ms. Nancy Baldauf	Redistricting needs to treat all Americans as equals, and create a division that fairly represents all the members of our country. Areas should reasonable conform in shape and population sizes, not run all over the place following a narrow stream of like voters. Ideally, each district would represent a population in similar proportions as the entire state
4316		Aug 25 2017 3:50PM	Mrs. Karen Fink	In looking at the maps, and reading several newspaper articles, it sure looks to me like there has been some attempt to reduce the influence of some of the most constitutional conservatives in the state. To reduce Michael Speciale's district by removing Pamlico county does not make any sense, considering the sizes of the adjoining districts. What can the possible objective in this move be? I suggest Pamlico County stay with Craven County. Additionally, the "double bunking" of conservatives is also concerning, ex: Chad Barefoot (though he announced he will not run now), and Larry Pittman. Moving Bill Cook out of his current district is suspect. Looks to me like the GOP establishment trying to wrestle the constitutional conservatives out of their seats. These maps can be better!
4317				
4318	Senate	Aug 2 2017 9:08PM	Mr. FLOYD ADSIT	At the moment, all of rural Granville County is joined with an urban portion of Durham County, an inequitable combination of communities unlike each other. I urge the redistricting committee to consider a new Senate district composed of rural counties including Granville, Person, Caswell, and perhaps rural portions of Durham County.
4319		Aug 2 2017 9:30PM	Ms. Suzannah Tho-mas	I have been a Life long Republican/Voter and Donor who lives in Durham County. We Have Waited Decades to have a Senate Seat that Represents Durham County- Granville And Person Counties. Predominantly Rwpublican County! Now is The Time to give us that Senate Seat. You have determined to give the city of Durham to the Democrats- Liberal crazies and to Duke University and also with the Kiberal courts maps made the City of Durham an African American Democrat Majority with The Corrupt G.K Battlefield leader of the Cities Black Congressional Caucas! Republicans in Durham County -Granville And Person Deserve A Republican Seat That Represents Us. I ask You to consider this that we do not lose Even more Republicans from our Party to become Federalist- Independents who abandon the GOP altogether. Its been far too long that we have waited and been kicked aside because You feel the issue is not Pressing enough for all of You. When we lose important Republican seats even further in 2018-2019-2020 because Republicans Have abandoned the GOP is that going to make you take notice then? Waiting and Absolutely Watching This Decision with Millions of Other #Conservatives on the brink.
4320		Aug 2 2017 10:38PM	Ms. Lee Green	Please create a Caswell-Person-Granville-Durham Senate district so that Republicans in these areas will finally have a voice.
4321		Aug 3 2017 2:18AM	Mrs. Lara McKinnon	Redrawing the district maps for a partisan advantage is Communism. Competition is a tenant of Capitalism and has been a rallying cry of the Republican Party for decades. You should be able to win reelection on your merits, not because you rigged the election.

4322		Aug 3 2017 7:22AM	Chris Weaver	Speaking for myself and if I may take the Liberty to do so ...many others here in Person County, we would love to see a Senate District crafted consisting of Caswell Person Granville and Durham and quite possibly the top half of Orange County following the old 6th District Lines. As a former native of Orange I know this top portion of that County to be extremely conservative. None-the-less any redrawn District that gives conservatives a competitive chance at electing a Republican senator is welcome. As chair of the party here in Person County I will do my part. Chris Weaver
4323		Aug 3 2017 9:15AM	Ms. Dianne Layden	The Common Cause redistricting map would make northeast NC a very minor player in NC politics. Multiple counties only having the power given to some single counties is not fair representation. While we are losing population, the way this map is drawn is unconstitutional and gives the power to the mid portion of the state. How can it be fair for 8-9 counties being the same as one or two. The current Senate map while having several counties together allows us more equal representation as well as keeps like counties together. Please do not change the current Senate 1 map.
4324		Aug 3 2017 11:36AM	Ms. martha shambley	In former 6th Congressional District and would like an opportunity to be in a competitive District for the North Carolina Senate. Orange County residents who live outside of the Chapel Hill area (northern part of the county) are never given a chance to be represented fairly.
4325		Aug 3 2017 7:31PM	Mr. Ron Wyatt	I believe that as they statutes were written counties should be kept whole whenever possible. I think Iredell County being a TOP Tier Economic County in North Carolina should not be split in two. We should have 1 Senator representing our entire County.
4326		Aug 3 2017 7:58PM	Mr. Andy Withers	I would like to see the NC Senate District 22 re-drawn to include Caswell, Person, Granville, and Durham counties. The current boundaries essentially ensure a Democrat gets elected every time. But a district including Caswell, Person, Granville, and Durham counties would be much more balanced.
4327		Aug 3 2017 9:23PM	Ms. Jennifer Smyth	The Senate map is even worse than the House map. Why in the world would anyone split Hertford and Bertie Counties, which are bound historically, geographically, economically, and genetically? One would be hard pressed to find two counties in NC that have more in common, but y'all are fine with disregarding that as long as you get to split up all those Black folks and dilute the Black vote. Halifax, Northampton, Bertie, Hertford, and Gates Counties need to stay together. Period. Doing anything else is gerrymandering, and we have had ENOUGH of that.
4328		Aug 4 2017 12:18PM	Abigail Ward	Districts should be created by an independent, unbiased, third party!
4329		Aug 4 2017 3:24PM	Daniel Campbell	The citizens of NC deserve fair and honest elections, not gerrymandered elections. I don't care who does it, who has done it, or who feels entitled to do it because their opponents did it. Gerrymandering is wrong, because it games the system. Our state Senators and Representatives should be representative of the people. When NC voters lean roughly one-third Republican, one-third Democrat, and one-third Independent, a single party should not dominate the Senate and the House. To be drawn fairly, districts must reflect all of the demographics of a given region. Sensible, fair, districts that reflect the diversity of North Carolinians can readily be drawn IF partisan bias is put aside in the interests of the people of our state. Please do so. Please consider consulting the algorithm developed by Brian Olson (https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2014/06/03/this-computer-programmer-solved-gerrymandering-in-his-spare-time/).
4330		Aug 5 2017 8:46AM	Mr. Thomas Williams	I am a registered independent dent voter. I feel the redistricting process should be turned over to non elected, bipartisan officials permanently. One day the democrats will have a majority again despite your best efforts to gerrymander yourselves. Unless you wish to reap the fruits of your unconstitutional and shameful ways you can only protect yourselves by moving this process out of the political arena. Duke Williams
4331		Aug 5 2017 6:14PM	Mr. Justin Boring	Establish an independent council for the purposes of determining how the voting districts in North Carolina should be drawn, ensuring that new boundaries be created in order to best serve all North Carolinians, and for complete transparency both during the establishment of said council and while our new voting map is being created.
4332		Aug 6 2017 8:38AM	Jo-Dee Collins	Redrawing the House district maps for a partisan advantage is Communism. Competition is a tenant of Capitalism and has been a rallying cry of the Republican Party for decades. You should be able to win reelection on your merits, not because you rigged the election.
4333		Aug 8 2017 9:54AM	Heather Dawes	NC needs an independent redistricting commissions. These have been proven successful in other states who no longer have issues with illegally drawn districts. We deserve fair elections and legislators who are still held accountable to their constituents.

4334		Aug 9 2017 1:23AM	Mr. Albert Pacer	<p>I favor a nonpartisan redistricting committee. An unconstitutionally elected legislature should not be allowed to redraw the districts. An illegitimate legislature can only produce illegitimate results.</p> <p>At a minimum, it should be legislative staff that does the redrawing--not an outside consultant.</p>
4335		Aug 9 2017 5:48PM	Mr. Fred mull	<p>every person has the right to vote if they are of age and the idea of someone trying to stop them from their right to vote is shameful and a disgrace.</p> <p>Fred mull Asheville nc</p>
4336		Aug 9 2017 8:32PM	Dr. Brock Downward	<p>As a resident of North Carolina, I want the criteria for redistricting to guarantee a process that is fair and open, and prevents racial and partisan gerrymandering. We deserve to have our legislative maps drawn in a way that guarantees everyone is equally and fairly represented and lets us choose the representatives we want.</p>
4337		Aug 15 2017 5:15PM	Ms. Zoe Litaker	<p>Please appoint an independent, nonpartisan commission to choose our maps. I am tired of hearing about our state in the news as racist and gerrymandered. Are we afraid of how the people will vote? Why the racially divided maps? This is a government for and by the people, not by the few who can draw the maps to please themselves. Let's keep both biases out of it, I would love to know what the whole of NC thinks and have a government that represents everyone as best we can.</p>
4338		Aug 17 2017 5:00PM	Kirk Brewer	<p>Come out of the closet and protect the history of our great state and my family. Arrest these people destroying our Civil War monuments. Do not listen to the media they do NOT speak for the large majority of us. We are unheard and getting very frustrated. Don't let out state unravel by those ripping on its seems of civility. By God you push that Blue line out there and get these people in jail ASAP. As far as Redistricting get us out of redistricting drawing for the sake of political gain. Thanks</p>
4339		Aug 17 2017 10:22PM	Mrs. Sakeenah Majeedah-ishaq	<p>Do not suppress our votes!</p>
4340		Aug 17 2017 11:19PM	Mr. Edgar Hazell	<p>Why where a group of radical supremisists granted permission to have a rally in Charlottesville?</p>
4341		Aug 18 2017 4:40PM	Mr. Hugh Barnes	<p>As a resident of Caldwell County, a former campaign staff member of gubernatorial candidate James E. Holshsouser, Jr, and having later served as his Special Assistant for Appointments and further have been a delegate to the 1972 Republican National Convention, I STRONGLY ADVOCATE THE PLAN to move Senator Ballard into the same district as Senator Randleman of Wilkes</p>
4342		Aug 21 2017 10:19AM	Mrs. Raynor James	<p>It looks like you are poised to put Senator Bill Cook out of his district and into a district in which he would have a very difficult time winning. Senator Cook is a very good friend to conservatives who actually believe in the Republican Platform. It would be very unwise and wrong to treat Senator Cook that way. Please revise your plan!!!</p>
4343		Aug 21 2017 12:45PM	Mr. David Moxley	<p>Yadkin County has a very civic minded, hard working and conscious senator in Joyce Krawiec and we don't want to lose her. Placing Forsyth and Davie Counties together puts two incumbents in the same district and Yadkin County without an incumbent Senator. Yadkin County is more connected and engaged with Forsyth County as well as being better informed out of Forsyth County with their newspaper and tv station. Yadkin County uses the Winston Salem Journal for some of its official notices as it is read by many Yadkin County Residents. Keep Yadkin County with Forsyth County for our Senatoral District.</p>
4344		Aug 21 2017 3:20PM	Mr. Lance Ashdown	<p>I see a lot of funny-looking squiggly districts, which makes me immediately suspicious. For example, why doesn't 49 take up the whole of Buncombe? Why are 28 and 29 so irregularly shaped? Why is 20 smushed down instead of extending to the whole of Durham county? What is going on with 14 and 15? Why does 21 extend in such a strange way into Cumberland? The answer is simply. You are trying to rig the system against blacks and Democrats. Some day I would like to meet a Republican lawmaker with ethics.</p>
4345		Aug 21 2017 8:02PM	Mr. Peter Larson	<p>The 27th district is still gerrymandered, when ALL districts must be compact and contiguous, to insure competitive elections in all of them. My current Senator does not represent me just because I disagree with her positions or because she does not make herself available to constituents or the press. It is also because my vote and any others' cannot make any difference to a election's outcome here. Make every district's election competitive, if this is a real and not a sham democracy.</p>
4346		Aug 22 2017 11:55AM	Dr. penne prigge	<p>I have lived in my house for 24 years and in that time have been in so many districts most of my neighbors don't even know where we are anymore! Over the last few years we have been "misrepresented" by a senator from Rockingham County who neither lives in Guilford County nor Greensboro. The new maps appear to now put us in districts where incumbents live in either Alamance or Randolph Counties. When do we actually see REAL representation??? Stop the partisanship and divide the geographic areas in a non-partisan and reasonable and rationale manner! Let us have true democracy for once.</p>

4347		Aug 22 2017 1:30PM	Luther Eggers	My concern is the 45th district. By having all of Wilkes County in this district surrounded by smaller counties you are making a Wilkes Senate seat that doesn't reflect the smaller counties like Ashe. Also, why is it that the redistricting primary would be between two strong female Senators?
4348		Aug 22 2017 4:40PM	Ms. Kathleen DeVore	Linking Martin County with Warren and Vance Counties for a senate seat is absurd. Why can't Martin County voters vote for a NC senator that represents a county next door to us, say Beaufort, Edgecombe, Washington, and/or Bertie Counties. Of course, I know the answer. You are trying to get a Repub elected, and so you want to make our Dem Senator run against an incumbent Republican. I resent the way you folks have redrawn these districts, and I hope the judge draws his own.
4349		Aug 22 2017 5:35PM	Mr. James Bazán	"...and to secure these rights governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed." These partisan districts undermine the ability for the people to grant "just powers." Powers seized and held by venal careerists are anything but "just powers." I live in Senate District 39. It will probably be a GOP seat no matter how it is drawn. So why does it follow the "white wedge" from Matthews & Ballantyne up to the peak in Myers Park? Could it have anything to do with packing East Charlotte? What you are proposing is an affront to democracy.
4350		Aug 22 2017 6:57PM	Mr. Hood Richardson	Proposed Senate District 3, Beaufort County is a part. 1. Combining Beaufort with Martin, Bertie Northhampton, Warren and Vance counties denies us of our historic relationship and common interest with other tidewater counties. We have no common interests with these counties. 2. The shape and long travel distance is unbearable. I takes an good three hours to get from Washington, NC to Henderson. 3. There are rumors that the Republicans deliberately concocted a district in which incumbent Bill Cook (resident of Beaufort County could not get elected in. It seems punishment is being handed out for his populist brand of conservative politics. 4. Senator Cooks present district is one o the most conservative in the state. 5. There are several viable alternatives to reconfigure this district to be representative of the tidewater area and at the same time other counties to be grouped together for the benefit of their common interests.
4351		Aug 23 2017 10:31AM	Ms. Laura Budniakiewicz	I'd like an explanation for the new Senate map boundary between districts 14, 15 (northern borders) and 18 (southern border). Specifically, there appears to be excessive jutting in/out and zig-zagging (suspicious, frankly) whereas a smoother border could be drawn. Districts 14 and 15 are thus heavily democrat and 18 slightly republican, and I am very curious to know what effect a smoother border would have.
4352		Aug 24 2017 12:22AM	Andrew Stern	This comment is specifically addressed to the Federal Court that required redrawing of the maps, as it is apparent the majority party in the Senate has no interest in adhering to the ruling of the Court. One only has to look at the proposed Senate map for Guilford County to see that unconstitutional districts continue to be drawn. If anyone can determine that the proposed District 28 is anything but a partisan and racial gerrymander, please explain it to me. It certainly is not compact; and the Senate has just used prior voting/registration patterns in lieu of a racial gerrymander. Please rule these new maps as unconstitutional and draw the maps or order an independent group to draw the maps.
4353		Aug 24 2017 9:32AM	Ms. BreAnna VanHook	I do not support the map redistricting. I want Don Davis to remain my state senator.
	Total	4351		

Exhibit 3

Memorandum

From: Ruth Greenwood, Senior Legal Counsel
To: House Select Committee on Redistricting and Senate Redistricting Committee
Date: August 22, 2017
Subject: **Proposed 2017 House and Senate Redistricting Plan: Efficiency Gap Analysis**

I have analyzed the districts and the associated data for each of the 2017 House Redistricting Plan (hereafter “Proposed House Plan”) and the 2017 Senate Redistricting Plan (hereafter “Proposed Senate Plan”), using the “stat pack” (composed of past statewide election results by district) made available on the North Carolina General Assembly website.

I conclude that both the Proposed House Plan and the Proposed Senate Plan will likely provide **a large and durable** advantage to Republican voters and candidates in the coming two elections due to the large efficiency gaps likely to be exhibited, even as the statewide vote swings over a range of 10 percentage points. The expected value of the efficiency gap, based on the stat pack released by the State with the draft plans is **-11.98%** for the Proposed House Plan and **-11.87%** for the Proposed Senate Plan.¹ By historical standards, these are extraordinarily large figures, revealing an enormous Republican edge.

This memo sets out a brief explanation of what the efficiency gap measures, a summary of the data gathered and methods used, and then presents the results of my analyses showing the large efficiency gaps that are predicted for the Proposed House Plan and Proposed Senate Plan.

The Efficiency Gap

The efficiency gap (EG) is one of several tools that social scientists use to gauge partisan symmetry (or lack thereof) in districting plans. Partisan symmetry exists when a district map gives political parties an equal opportunity to translate votes for their candidates into legislative seats. It means that “the electoral system treat[s] similarly-situated parties equally.”²

The EG has already become an accepted method for measuring partisan gerrymandering.

A three-judge federal court has allowed Plaintiffs to proceed in their challenge of North Carolina’s 2016 Congressional Redistricting Plan on a theory of liability that is based on partisan symmetry generally, as measured by the EG.³ A three-judge federal court in Wisconsin has likewise determined that

¹ By social science convention, negative numbers indicate Republican advantage and positive numbers indicate Democratic advantage.

² *League of United Latin Am. Citizens v. Perry*, 548 U.S. 399, 466 (2006) (Stevens, J., concurring in part and dissenting in part) (citation omitted).

³ *Common Cause v. Rucho*, No. 1:16-CV-1026, 2017 WL 876307, at *3-4, *12 (M.D.N.C. Mar. 3, 2017).

“the EG is corroborative evidence of” partisan gerrymandering for state legislative bodies.⁴ The EG provides strong evidence of whether a district map is biased toward one political party.

The EG assesses partisan asymmetry by focusing on the techniques that map-drawers use to create partisan gerrymanders. Gerrymanders are created by “packing” some of the opposing party’s voters into overwhelmingly one-sided districts, and “cracking” the remaining opposing-party voters apart across other districts, so they are insufficiently numerous in each of those districts to elect their chosen candidates.⁵ Both of these methods create what social scientists refer to as “wasted” votes—votes that were not necessary to the winning candidate’s victory.⁶ Any votes cast for a losing candidate, or cast for a winning candidate in excess of what’s needed to prevail, are considered “wasted.”⁷ In a partisan gerrymander, the map-drawing party forces the opposing party to waste many more votes, making it more difficult for that party’s supporters to translate votes into seats.⁸

EG analysis involves three steps. First, add up all of the votes each party wastes due to packing and cracking, across all of the races for a particular legislative body. Second, take the difference between the wasted votes cast for each major political party. Third, divide this difference by the total number of votes cast.⁹ The resulting percentage measures how much more effectively one party’s voters are distributed compared to the other party’s voters.

Expert analysis indicates that the value of an EG that suggests a partisan skew is likely to be large and durable for state legislative plans if it is greater in magnitude than +/-7%. Expert Report of Professor Simon Jackman at 5, *Whitford v. Gill*, 218 F.Supp.3d 837 (W.D. Wis. 2016), ECF No. 62 (hereafter “Jackman Report”).¹⁰

Data and Methods

Data - The Proposed House Plan

The shapefiles and data associated with the Proposed House Plan were released on August 21, 2017, on the North Carolina General Assembly, House Select Committee on Redistricting website.¹³ The “NC House

⁴ *Whitford*, 218 F. Supp. 3d at 910.

⁵ See *Vieth v. Jubelirer*, 541 U.S. 267, 286 n.7 (2004) (plurality opinion).

⁶ Nicholas O. Stephanopoulos & Eric M. McGhee, *Partisan Gerrymandering and the Efficiency Gap*, 82 U. Chi. L. Rev. 831, 849-50 (2015). Note that the word “wasted” is not meant as a pejorative: everyone’s vote is meaningful. Rather, it is a technical term of art, developed by social scientists.

⁷ See *Whitford v. Gill*, 218 F. Supp. 3d 837, 903–04 (W.D. Wis. 2016), *jur. postponed*, 137 S. Ct. 2268 (2017).

⁸ For instance, if Party A can win 60% of the seats with only 51% of the vote, but Party B would need 56% of the vote to win that same 60% of the seats, Party B is wasting many more votes than Party A.

⁹ In mathematical terms, the efficiency gap can be calculated as $(W_A - W_B) / n$, where W_A and W_B are the total number of wasted votes cast for Party A and Party B, respectively, and n is the total number of votes cast.

¹⁰ See also *Whitford*, 218 F. Supp. 3d at 905; Stephanopoulos & McGhee, *supra* note 6, at 888-89.

¹³ <http://www.ncleg.net/gascripts/DocumentSites/browseDocSite.asp?nID=356>.

2017_Stat Pack_8.21.17” offered district by district vote totals for each district in the Proposed House Plan, for the following races:

1. 2012 Governor
2. 2012 Lt. Governor
3. 2014 U.S. Senate
4. 2016 President
5. 2016 U.S. Senate
6. 2016 Governor
7. 2016 Attorney General
8. 2012 President

I created an average expected vote in each of the 120 House districts by adding the vote totals for the Democrats and dividing by eight (the number of elections in the data set), and doing the same for the Republican votes.

I calculated the efficiency gap for the Proposed House Plan at this expected value of the vote, by adding the wasted votes for the Democrats and Republicans, and dividing by the total number of votes. I then calculated the effects of swinging the vote by five percent in each direction (that is, up to five percent more favorable to Democrats, and up to five percent more favorable to Republicans), for a total swing of ten percentage points. I calculated the EG at one percent increments across this vote swing. This technique is called “sensitivity testing,” and is the standard method for predicting a plan’s performance over a range of electoral environments.

Finally, I compared the expected EG to the EGs that have been exhibited by state house plans from 1972 to 2016, using data from the Jackman Report.

Data - The Proposed Senate Plan

The shapefiles and data associated with the Proposed House Plan were released on August 21, 2017, on the North Carolina General Assembly, Senate Redistricting website.¹⁴ The “NC SENATE 2017_Stat Pack_8.21.17” offered district by district vote totals for each district in the Proposed House Plan, for the following races:

1. 2010 U.S. Senate
2. 2012 President
3. 2012 Governor
4. 2012 Lt. Governor
5. 2014 U.S. Senate
6. 2016 President
7. 2016 U.S. Senate

¹⁴ <http://www.ncleg.net/gascripts/DocumentSites/browseDocSite.asp?nID=357>.

8. 2016 Governor
9. 2016 Attorney General

I created an average expected vote in each of the 50 Senate districts by adding the vote totals for the Democrats and dividing by nine (the number of elections in the data set), and doing the same for the Republican votes.

I calculated the efficiency gap for the Proposed Senate Plan at this expected value of the vote, by adding the wasted votes for the Democrats and Republicans, and dividing by the total number of votes. I then calculated the effects of swinging the vote by five percent in each direction (that is, up to five percent more favorable to Democrats, and up to five percent more favorable to Republicans), for a total swing of ten percentage points. I calculated the EG at one percent increments across this vote swing.

The Proposed House Plan: Efficiency Gap Results

The Proposed House Plan has an extremely large EG across a range of vote shares. The expected value is - 11.98% (that is, 11.98% in favor of Republican voters), but the total range of the EG for the ten percent swing in the vote goes from a high of -5.22% to a low of -17.48%. Assuming a statewide uniform swing in the vote, in order for there to be a Republican majority in the House, Republicans will only need a statewide vote of 45.7%. By contrast, a Democratic statewide vote share of 54.8% will be needed to secure a Democratic majority in the House. This is asymmetrical, and evidences a severe bias in favor of Republican voters.

The EG results from the swing analysis are shown in tabular and chart format below.

Projected vote	Proposed House Plan Efficiency Gap
Dem Vote-5%	-5.22%
Dem Vote -4%	-6.33%
Dem Vote -3%	-6.77%
Dem Vote -2%	-8.77%
Dem Vote -1%	-10.77%
Expected EG (Statewide Dem vote share 48.3%)	-11.98%
Dem Vote +1%	-12.99%
Dem Vote +2%	-14.22%
Dem Vote +3%	-15.48%
Dem Vote +4%	-17.48%
Dem Vote +%5	-16.38%

Table 1: Efficiency Gap scores for Proposed House Plan at Democratic vote shares from 43.3% to 53.3% (one percent intervals)

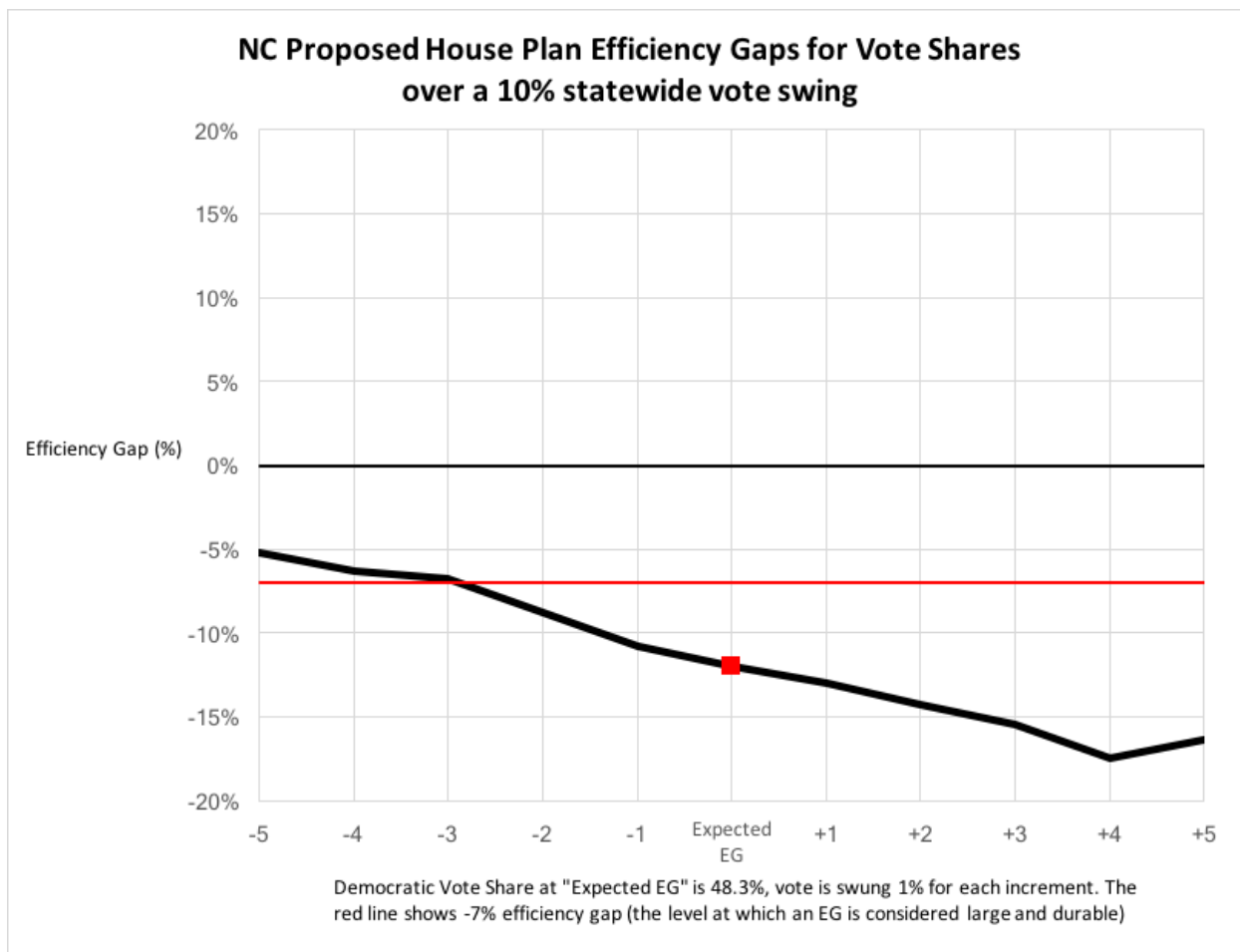


Figure 1: Efficiency Gap scores for Proposed House Plan at Democratic vote shares from 43.3% to 53.3% (one percent intervals)

The following chart shows the expected EG in the context of EGs exhibit by state house plans from 1972-2016.

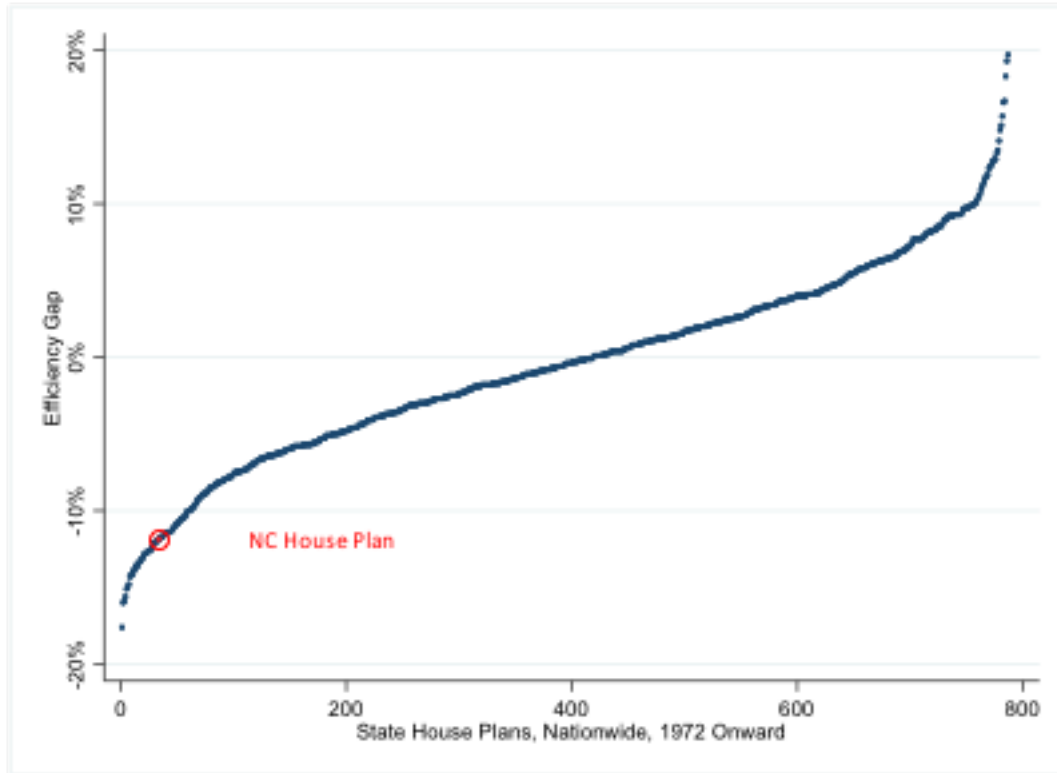


Figure 2: Expected efficiency gap score for Proposed House Plan compared with EGs shown by State House Plans nationwide from 1972-2016.

The Proposed Senate Plan: Efficiency Gap Results

The Proposed Senate Plan also has an extremely large EG across a range of vote shares. The expected value is -11.87% (that is, 11.87% in favor of Republican voters), but the total range of the EG for the ten percent swing in the vote goes from a high of -5.20% to a low of -15.87%. Assuming a statewide uniform swing in the vote, in order for there to be a Republican majority in the House, Republicans will only need a statewide vote of 46.15%. By contrast, a Democratic statewide vote share of 55.15% will be needed to secure a Democratic majority in the House. This is asymmetrical, and evidences a severe bias in favor of Republican voters.

The EG results from the swing analysis are shown in tabular and chart format below.

Projected vote	Proposed House Plan Efficiency Gap
Dem Vote -5%	-5.20%
Dem Vote -4%	-7.20%
Dem Vote -3%	-9.20%
Dem Vote -2%	-9.30%
Dem Vote -1%	-9.87%
Expected EG (Statewide Dem vote share 47.8%)	-11.87%
Dem Vote +1%	-13.87%
Dem Vote +2%	-15.87%
Dem Vote +3%	-15.81%
Dem Vote +4%	-11.89%
Dem Vote +5%	-12.15%

Table 2: Efficiency Gap scores for Proposed Senate Plan at Democratic vote shares from 42.8% to 52.8% (one percent intervals)

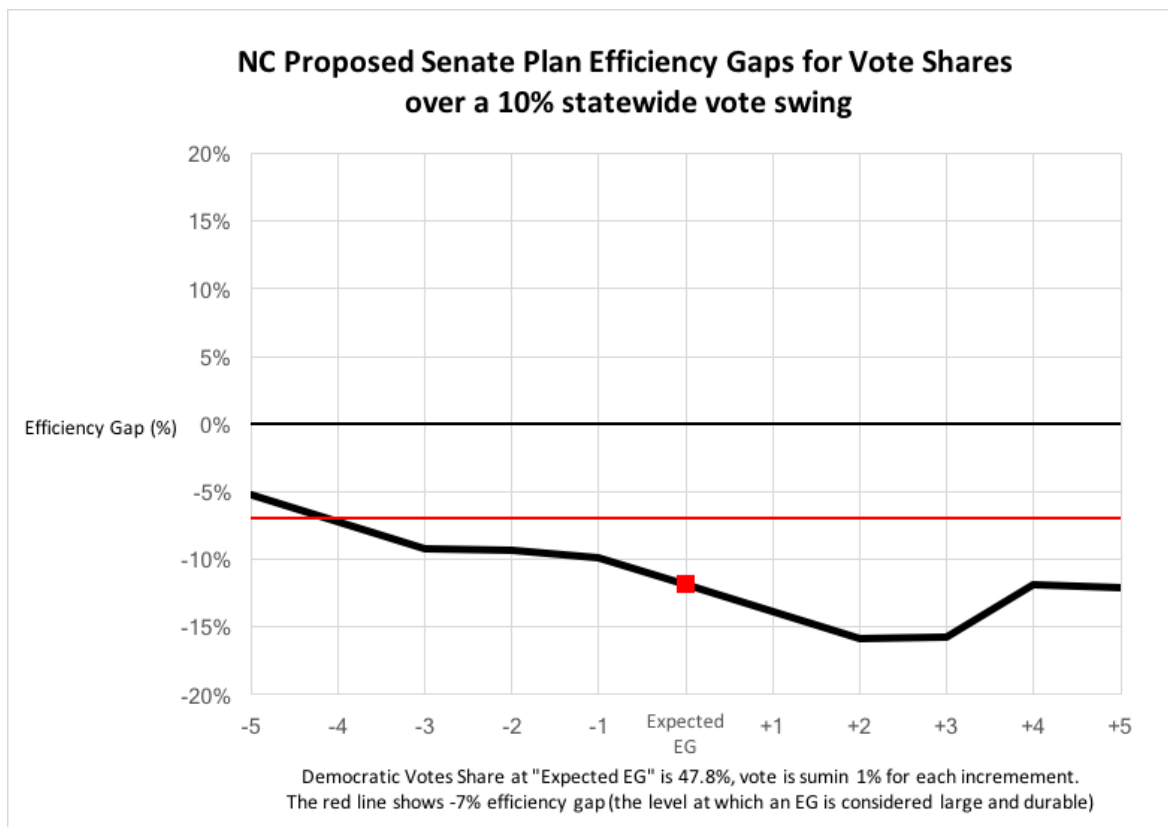


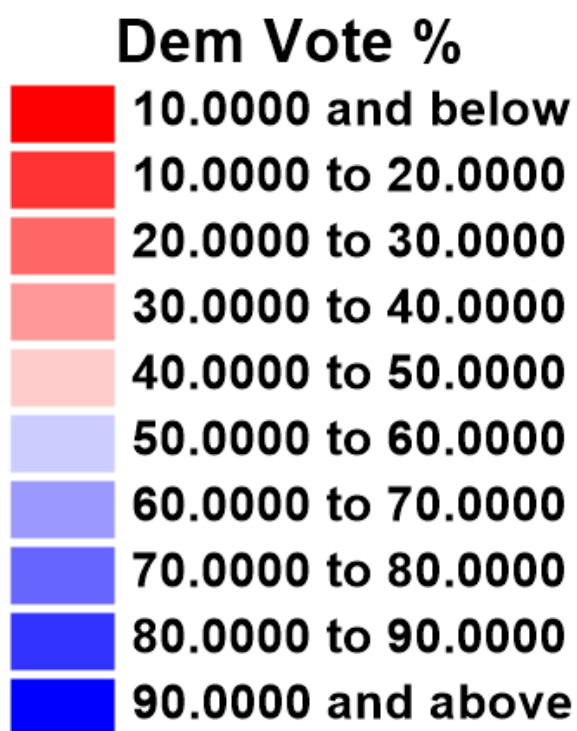
Figure 3: Efficiency Gap scores for Proposed Senate Plan at Democratic vote shares from 42.8% to 52.8% (one percent intervals)

Evidence of Packing and Cracking

The following pages show a series of maps of North Carolina. On each map I have used an average of Republican and Democratic votes from twenty state-wide elections over 2008 to 2014, and displayed areas of the state that voted more heavily for Republicans in red and those that voted more heavily for Democrats in blue. The same scale is used in each map. The election data was downloaded from the North Carolina General Assembly Redistricting page.¹⁵

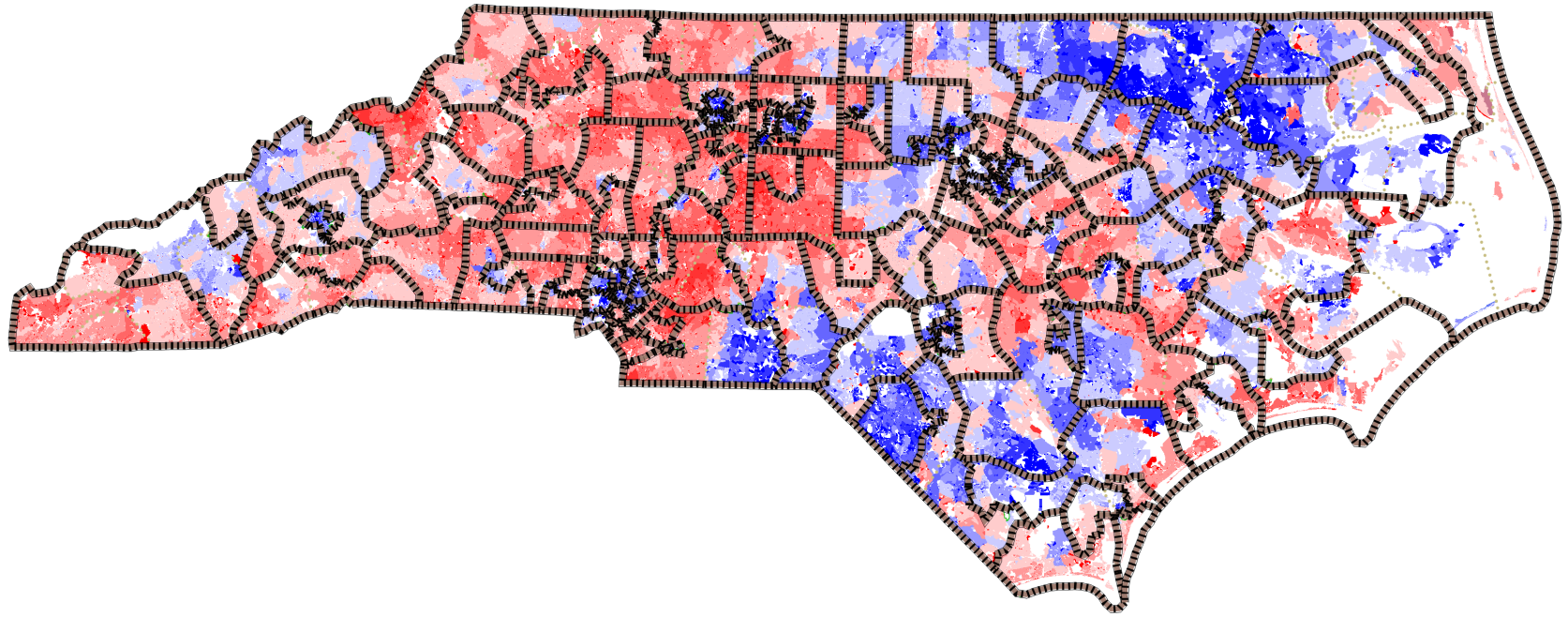
The maps show the district lines for the Proposed House Plan and the Proposed Senate Plan, and identify where groups of Democratic voters have either been cracked or packed.

The color scale used for each map is as follows:

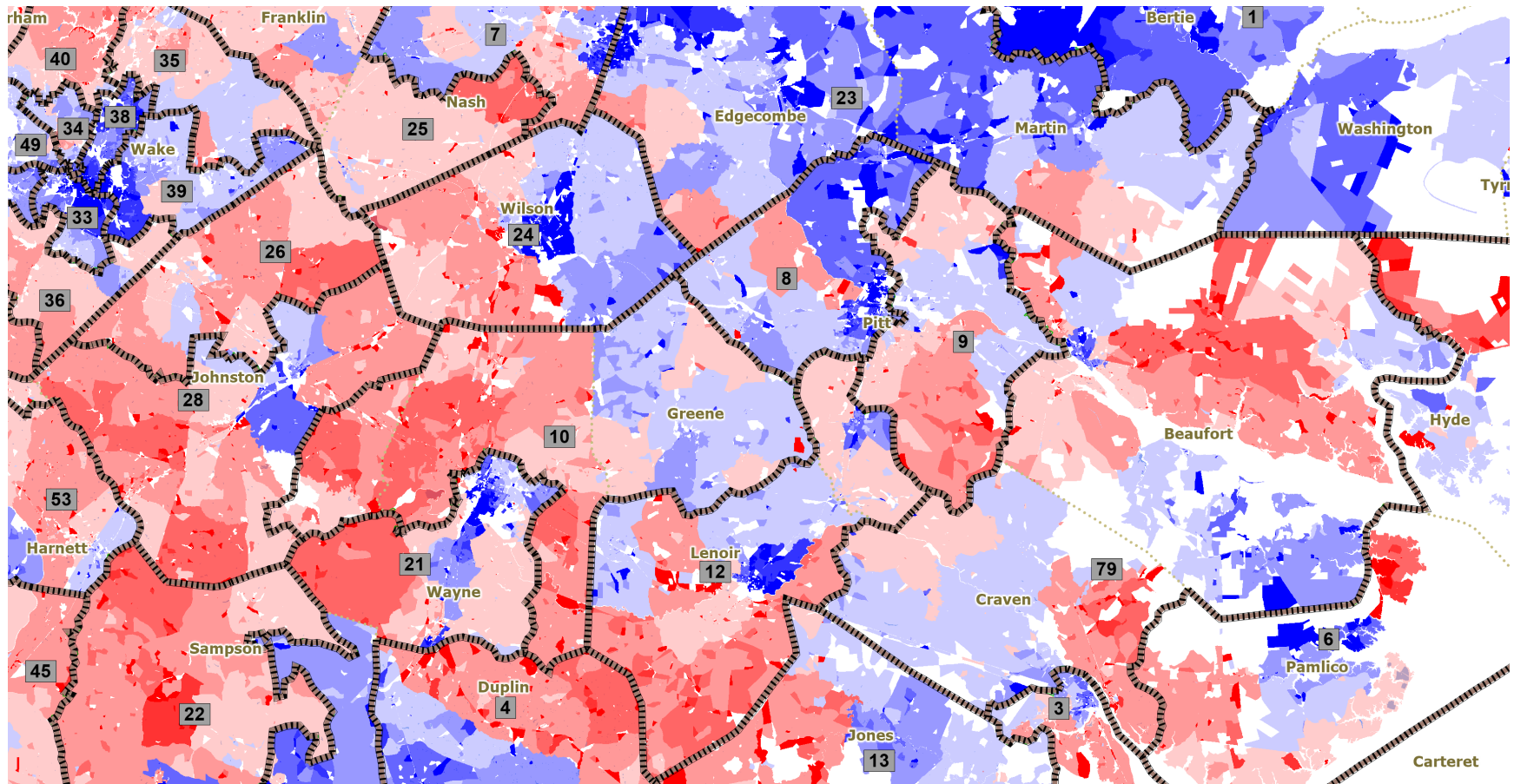


¹⁵ <http://www.ncleg.net/representation/Content/BaseData/BD2016.aspx>

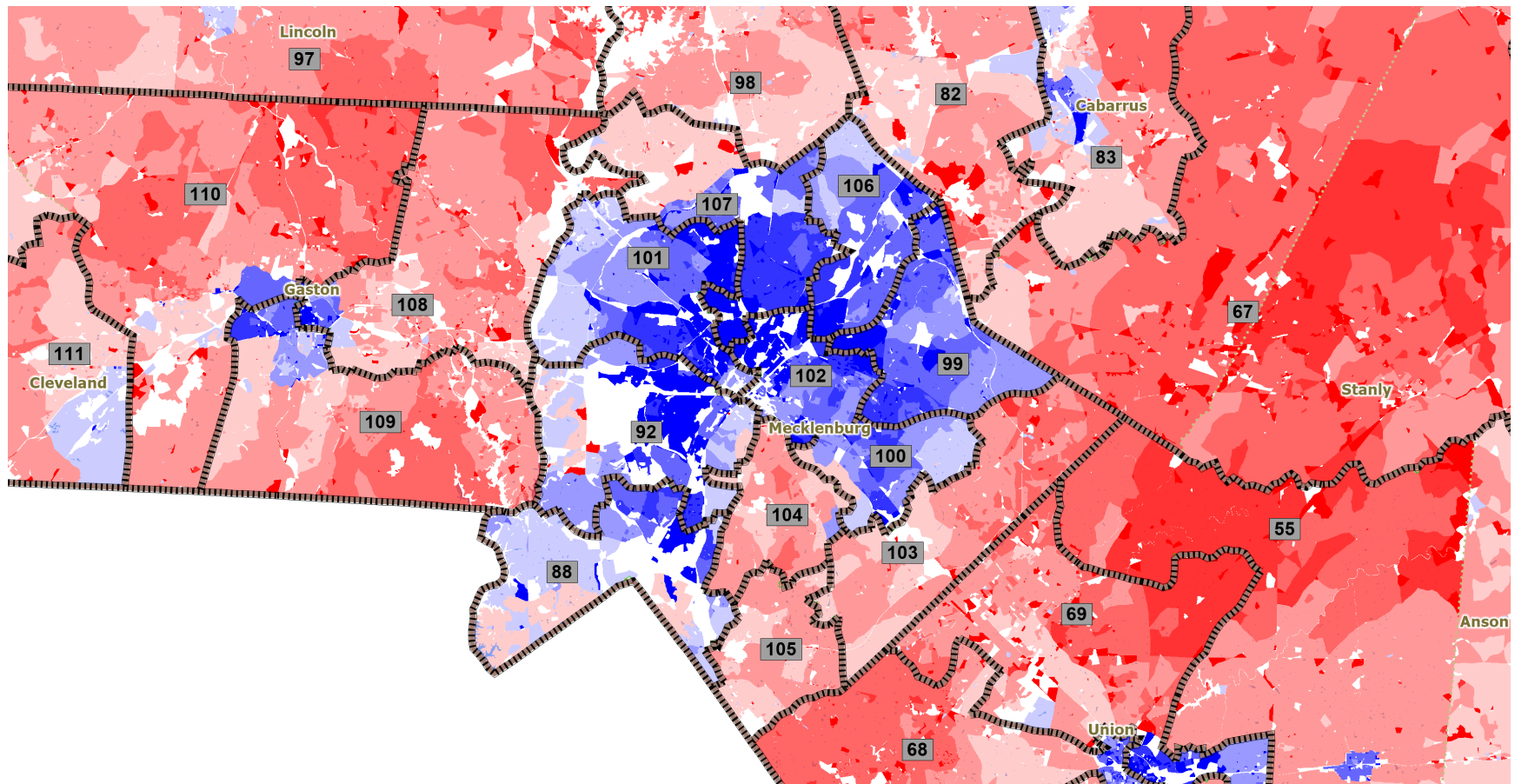
Proposed House Plan – Full State



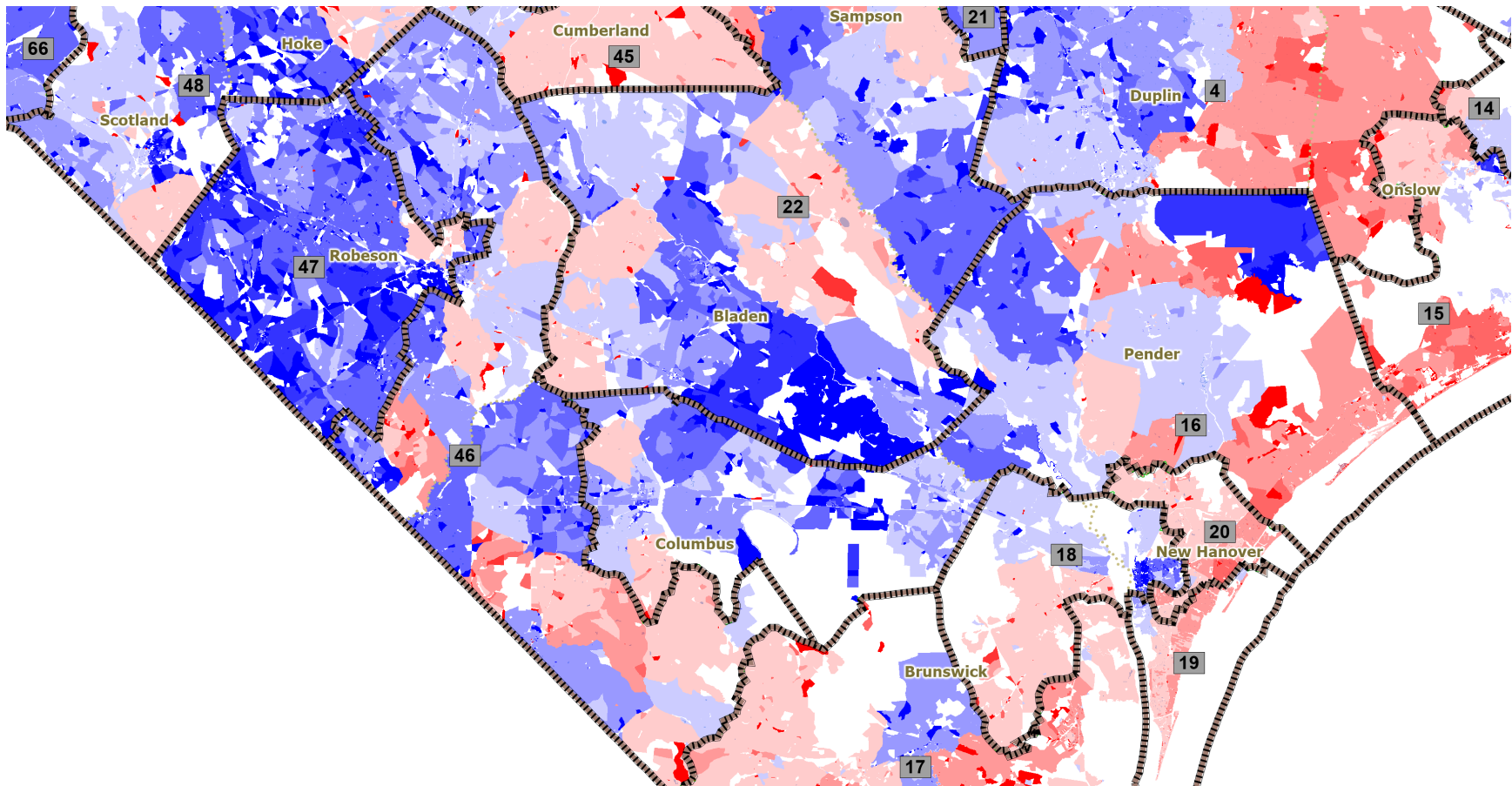
Proposed House Plan – Greene County zoom



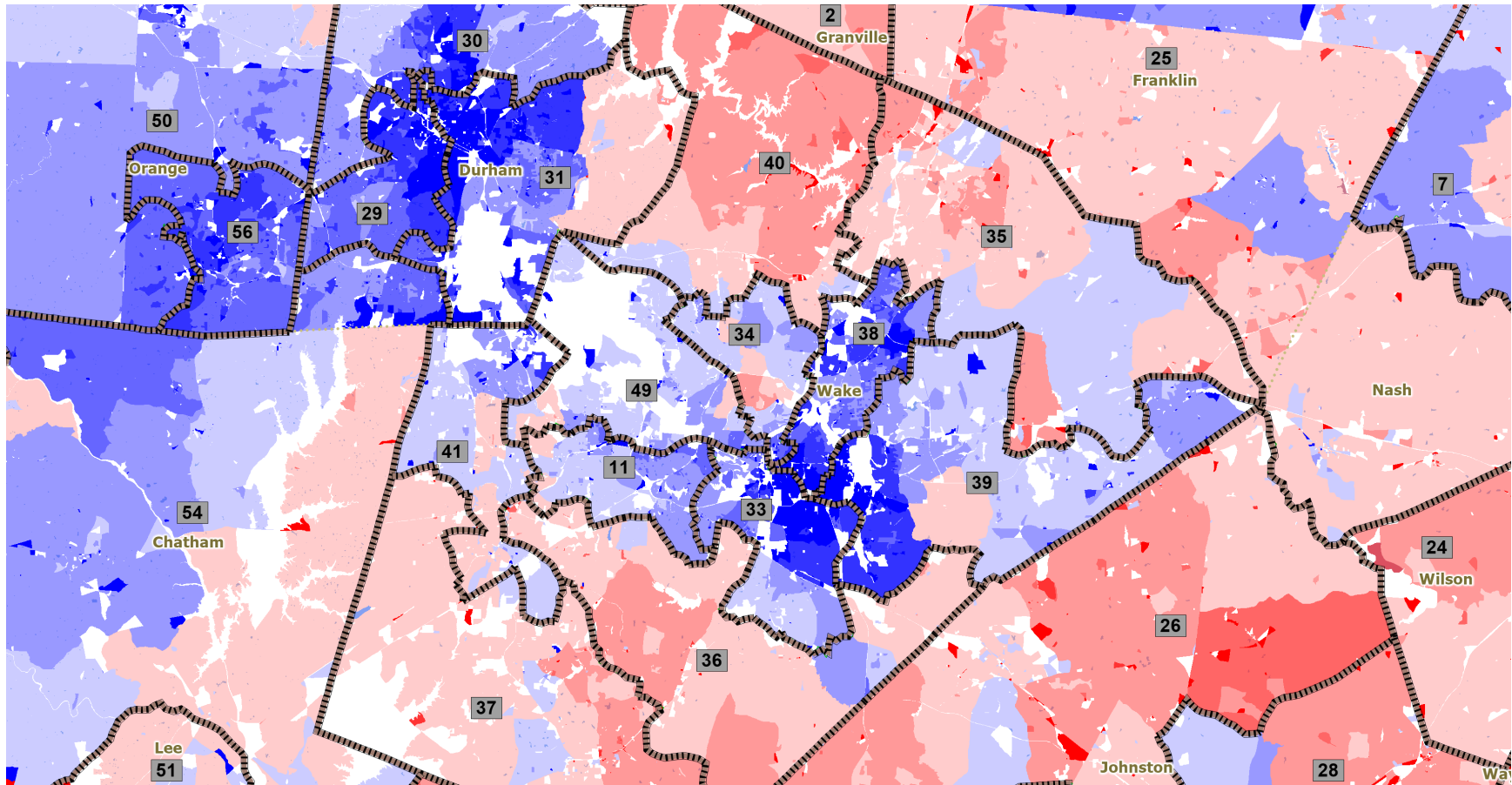
Proposed House Plan – Mecklenburg County zoom



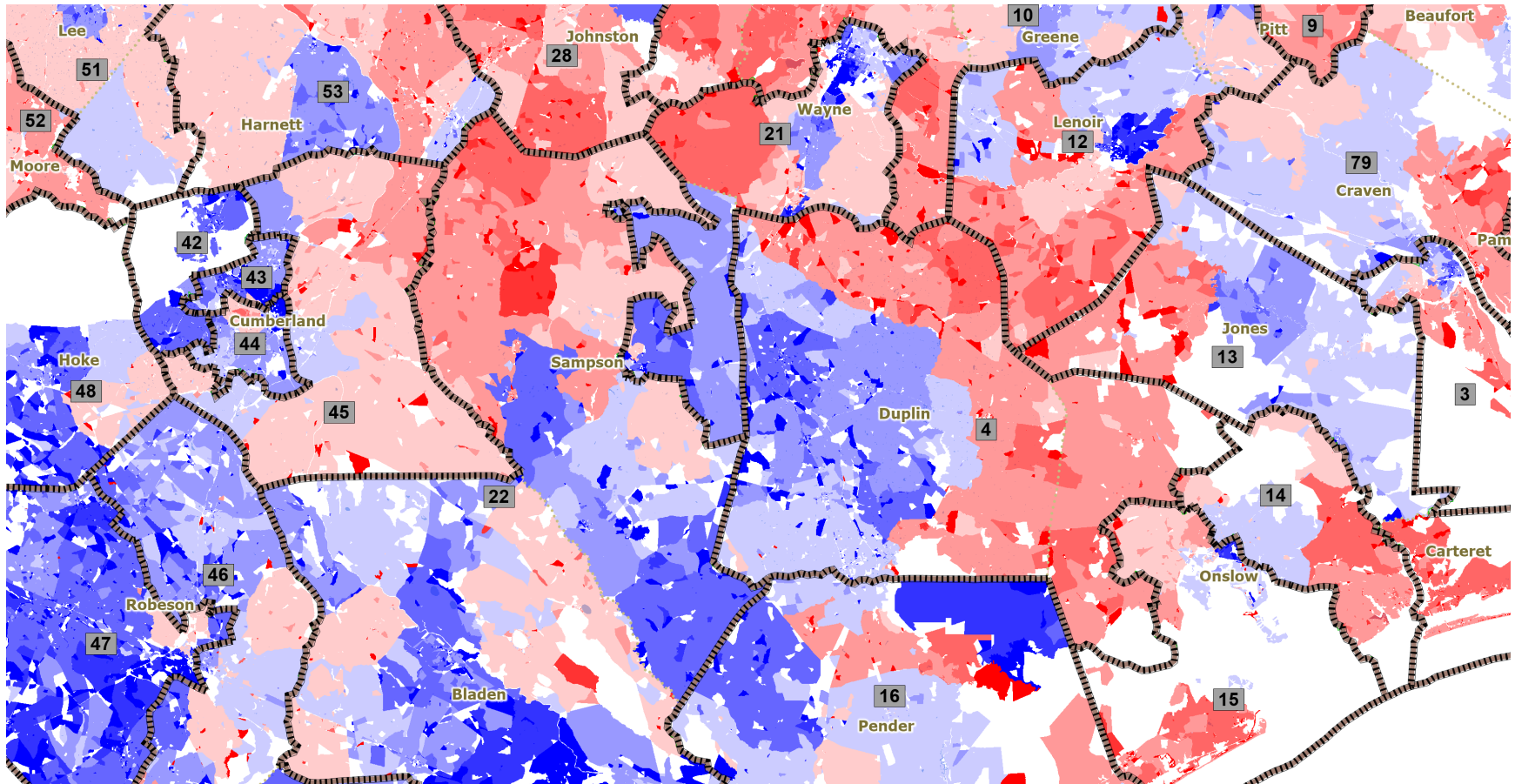
Proposed House Plan –Robeson County and Columbus County zoom



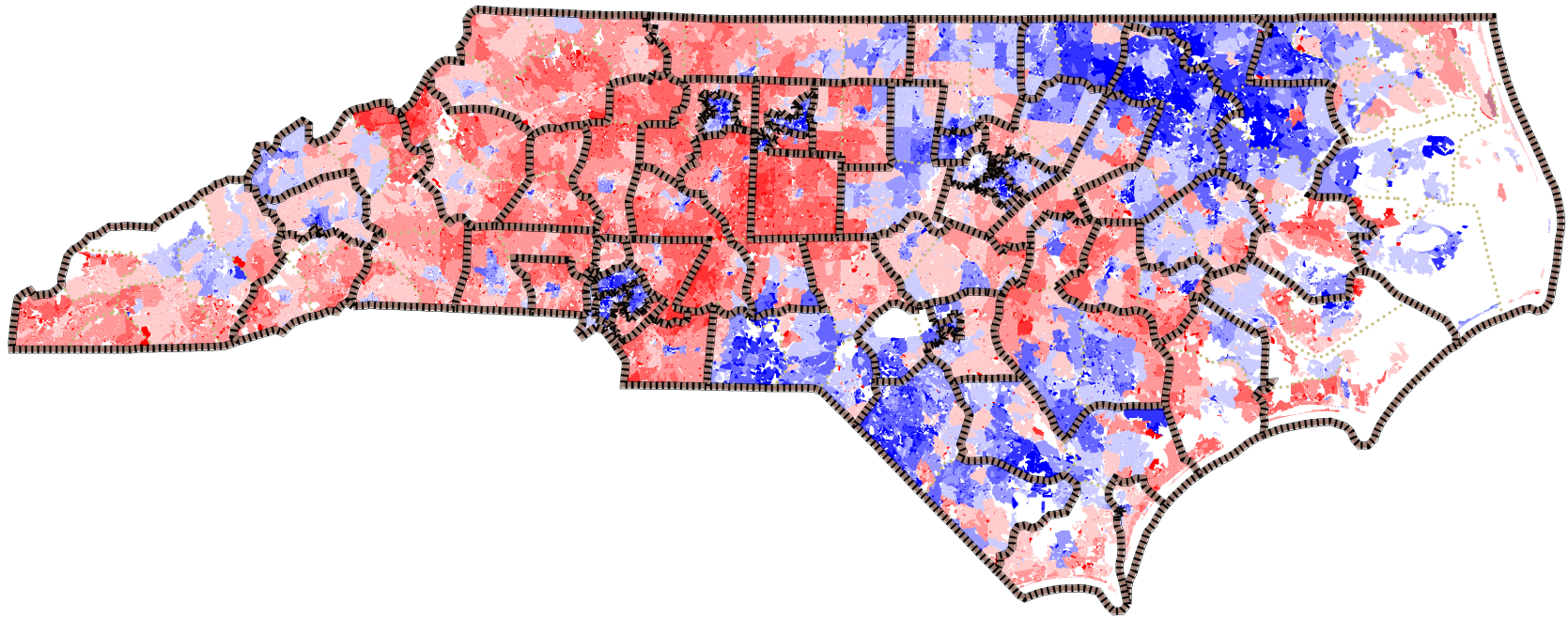
Proposed House Plan – Wake County zoom



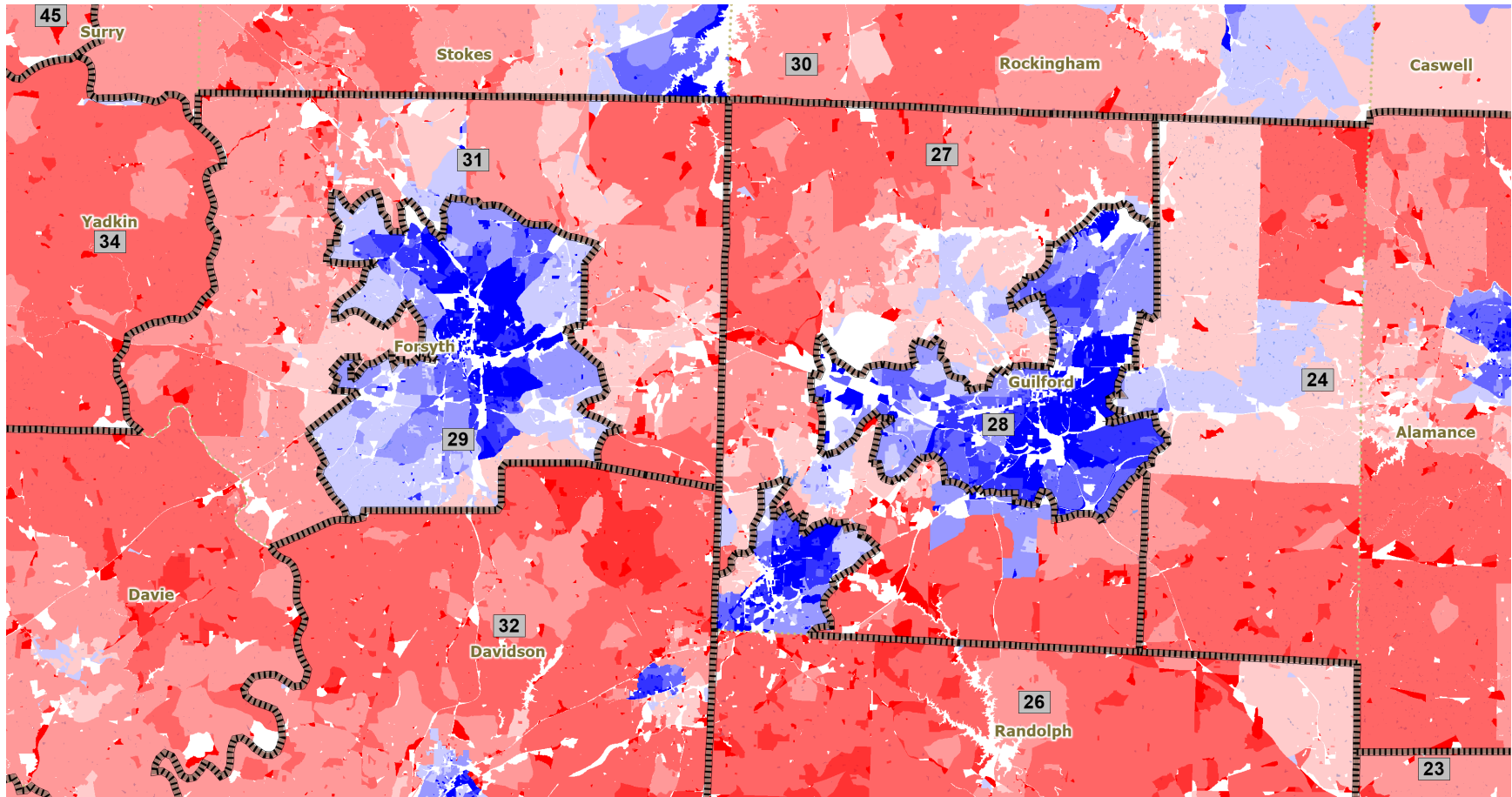
Proposed House Plan – Wayne County zoom



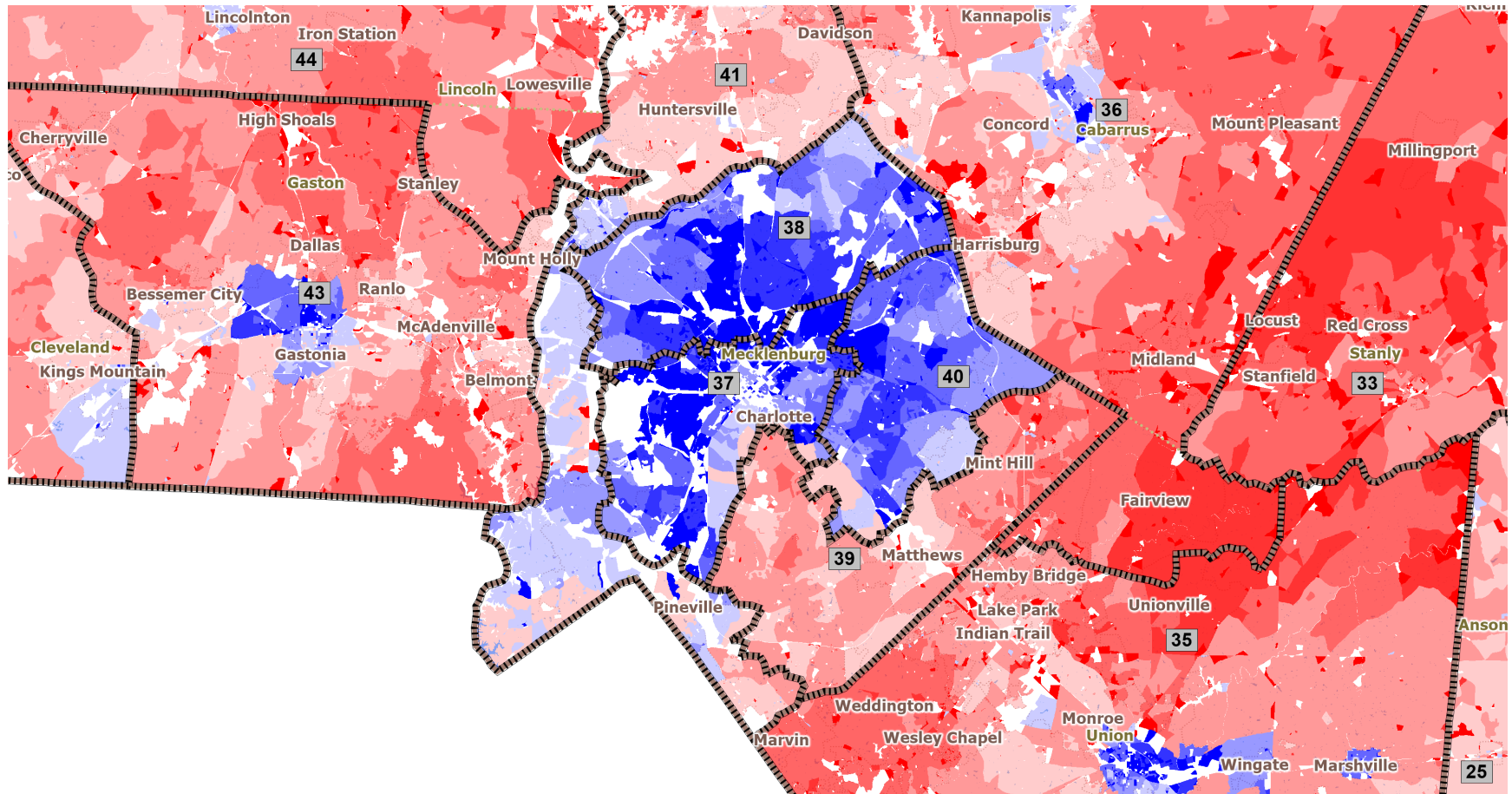
Proposed Senate Plan – Full State



Proposed Senate Plan – Forsyth County and Guilford County zoom



Proposed Senate Plan – Mecklenburg County zoom



Proposed Senate Plan – Wake County and Durham County zoom

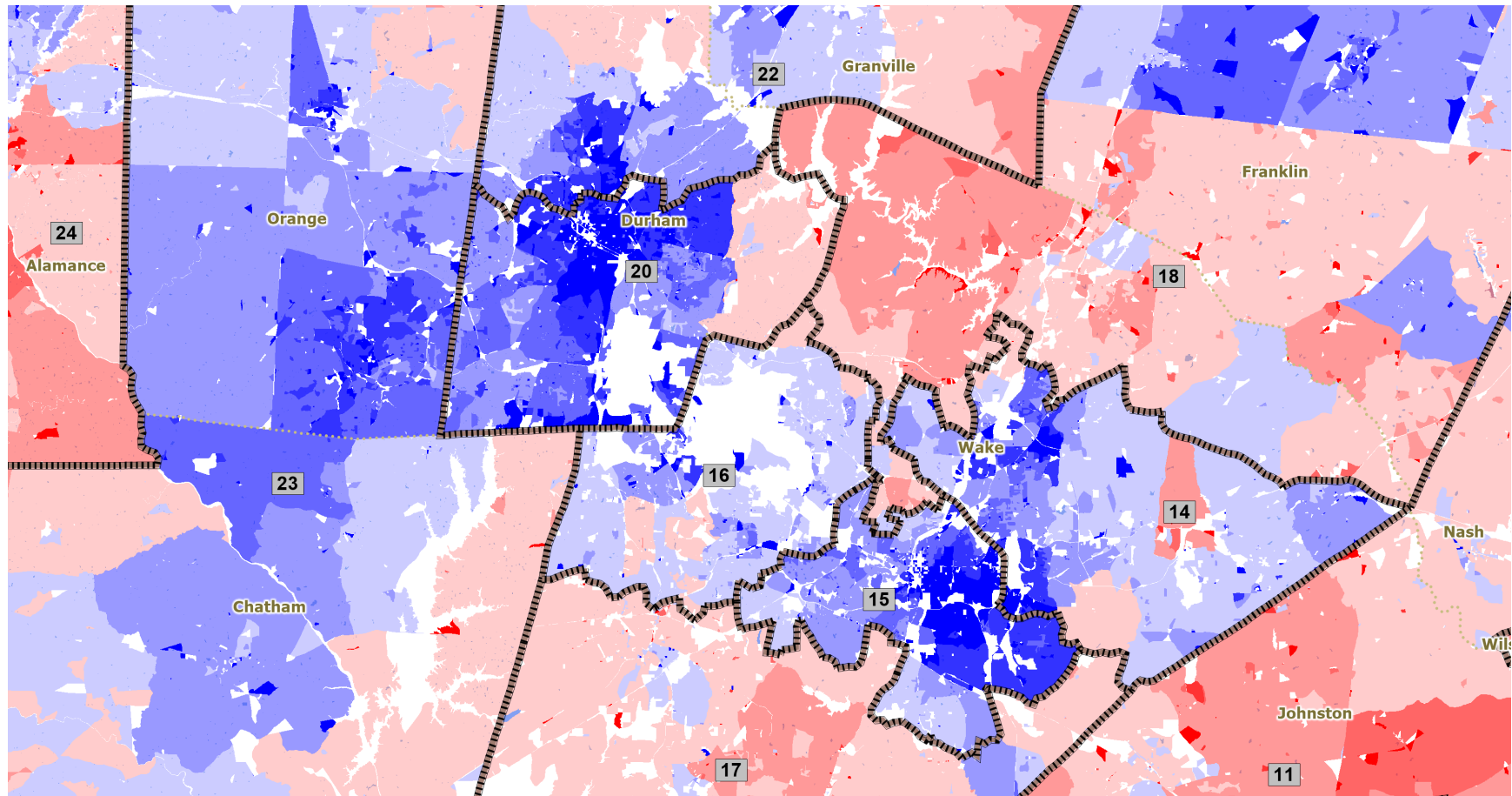


Exhibit 4

Memorandum

From: Ruth Greenwood, Senior Legal Counsel¹
To: House Select Committee on Redistricting and Senate Redistricting Committee
Date: August 24, 2017
Subject: **Comparison of Efficiency Gaps in the NCGA Proposed 2017 House and Senate Plans and the Covington Plaintiffs' Proposed House and Senate Plans**

I have analyzed the districts and the associated data for each of the 2017 North Carolina General Assembly House Redistricting Plan (hereafter "NCGA Proposed House Plan"),² the 2017 North Carolina General Assembly Senate Redistricting Plan (hereafter, "NCGA Proposed Senate Plan"), the Covington Plaintiffs' Proposed House Plan (hereafter "Covington Proposed House Plan") and the Covington Plaintiffs' Proposed Senate Plan (hereafter "Covington Proposed Senate Plan"), using the "stat pack" (composed of past statewide election results by district) that was made available on the North Carolina General Assembly website in 2016.³

I conclude that both the Covington Proposed House and Senate Plans will treat voters of both parties in a significantly more equal way than the NCGA Proposed House and Senate Plans, across a range of likely electoral outcomes. I reiterate from my memo dated August 22, 2017, that the NCGA Proposed House and Senate Plans will likely provide a large and durable advantage to Republican voters and candidates in the coming elections due to the large efficiency gaps likely to be exhibited. I find that the Covington Proposed House and Senate Plans will likely exhibit significantly smaller efficiency gaps, more consistent with a district plan that will fairly convert voters' preferences into state legislative seats.

The expected value of the NCGA Proposed House Plan's efficiency gap (EG) is -11.35% while the Covington Proposed Plan's expected EG is only -1.93%.⁴ The Covington Proposed House Plan's expected EG is therefore over 80% smaller than the NCGA's Proposed House Plan's EG. The explanation for the negative efficiency gap in the Covington Proposed House Plan is likely that 32.5% of the districts remain

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² If the Proposed House Plan is altered, I will update this memo and resubmit it to the Redistricting Committees.

³ Available at <http://www.ncleg.net/representation/Content/BaseData/BD2016.aspx>. I have used these data because the stat pack that was released on August 21, 2017 did not provide election results at the census block level and so cannot be used to compare the NCGA Proposed Plan to other district configurations. The main difference between the data is that the stat pack used in this memo includes only elections from 2008-2014, while the stat pack released on August 21, 2017 included 2016 election results.

⁴ By social science convention, negative numbers indicate Republican advantage and positive numbers indicate Democratic advantage.

identical to the previous plan. If all districts were altered, it is likely a plan could be produced that would have an efficiency gap close to zero.

The expected value of the NCGA Proposed Senate Plan's efficiency gap (EG) is -11.1% while the Covington Proposed Senate Plan's expected EG is only -4.3%.⁵ The Covington Proposed Senate Plan's expected EG is therefore over 60% smaller than the NCGA's Proposed Senate Plan's EG. The explanation for the negative efficiency gap in the Covington Proposed Senate Plan is likely that 28% of the districts remain identical to the previous plan because those districts were not invalidated or not affected by necessary changes to any district ruled unconstitutional. If all districts were altered, it is likely a plan could be produced that would have an efficiency gap close to zero.

This memo sets out a brief explanation of what the efficiency gap measures, a summary of the data gathered and methods used, and then presents the results of my analyses showing the large efficiency gaps that are predicted for the NCGA Proposed House and Senate Plans and the smaller efficiency gaps predicted for the Covington Proposed House and Senate Plans.

The Efficiency Gap

The efficiency gap (EG) is one of several tools that social scientists use to gauge partisan symmetry (or lack thereof) in districting plans. Partisan symmetry exists when a district map gives political parties an equal opportunity to translate votes for their candidates into legislative seats. It means that “the electoral system treat[s] similarly-situated parties equally.”⁷

The EG has already become an accepted method for measuring partisan gerrymandering. A three-judge federal court has allowed Plaintiffs to proceed in their challenge of North Carolina's 2016 Congressional Redistricting Plan on a theory of liability that is based on partisan symmetry generally, as measured by the EG.⁸ A three-judge federal court in Wisconsin has likewise determined that “the EG is corroborative evidence of” partisan gerrymandering for state legislative bodies.⁹ The EG provides strong evidence of whether a district map is biased toward one political party.

The EG assesses partisan asymmetry by focusing on the techniques that map-drawers use to create partisan gerrymanders. Gerrymanders are created by “packing” some of the opposing party's voters into overwhelmingly one-sided districts, and “cracking” the remaining opposing-party voters apart across other districts, so they are insufficiently numerous in each of those districts to elect their chosen candidates.¹⁰ Both of these methods create what social scientists refer to as “wasted” votes—votes that

⁵ By social science convention, negative numbers indicate Republican advantage and positive numbers indicate Democratic advantage.

⁷ *League of United Latin Am. Citizens v. Perry*, 548 U.S. 399, 466 (2006) (Stevens, J., concurring in part and dissenting in part) (citation omitted).

⁸ *Common Cause v. Rucho*, No. 1:16-CV-1026, 2017 WL 876307, at *3-4, *12 (M.D.N.C. Mar. 3, 2017).

⁹ *Whitford*, 218 F. Supp. 3d at 910.

¹⁰ See *Vieth v. Jubelirer*, 541 U.S. 267, 286 n.7 (2004) (plurality opinion).

were not necessary to the winning candidate's victory.¹¹ Any votes cast for a losing candidate, or cast for a winning candidate in excess of what's needed to prevail, are considered "wasted."¹² In a partisan gerrymander, the map-drawing party forces the opposing party to waste many more votes, making it more difficult for that party's supporters to translate votes into seats.¹³

EG analysis involves three steps. First, add up all of the votes each party wastes due to packing and cracking, across all of the races for a particular legislative body. Second, take the difference between the wasted votes cast for each major political party. Third, divide this difference by the total number of votes cast.¹⁴ The resulting percentage measures how much more effectively one party's voters are distributed compared to the other party's voters.

Expert analysis indicates that the value of an EG that suggests a partisan skew is likely to be large and durable for state legislative plans if it is greater in magnitude than +/-7%. Expert Report of Professor Simon Jackman at 5, *Whitford v. Gill*, 218 F.Supp.3d 837 (W.D. Wis. 2016), ECF No. 62.¹⁵

Data and Methods

The shapefiles and data used in this analysis were released in February, 2016 during the remapping process for the congressional district plan (following the order in *Harris v. McCrory*, 159 F. Supp. 3d 600).¹⁸ It includes data for the following races:

1. 2008 Attorney General
2. 2008 Auditor
3. 2008 Commissioner of Agriculture
4. 2008 Commissioner of Insurance
5. 2008 Commissioner of Labor
6. 2008 Governor
7. 2008 Lieutenant Governor
8. 2008 Superintendent of Public Instruction
9. 2008 U.S. Senate
10. 2010 U.S. Senate
11. 2012 Governor

¹¹ Nicholas O. Stephanopoulos & Eric M. McGhee, *Partisan Gerrymandering and the Efficiency Gap*, 82 U. Chi. L. Rev. 831, 849-50 (2015). Note that the word "wasted" is not meant as a pejorative: everyone's vote is meaningful. Rather, it is a technical term of art, developed by social scientists.

¹² See *Whitford v. Gill*, 218 F. Supp. 3d 837, 903-04 (W.D. Wis. 2016), *jur. postponed*, 137 S. Ct. 2268 (2017).

¹³ For instance, if Party A can win 60% of the seats with only 51% of the vote, but Party B would need 56% of the vote to win that same 60% of the seats, Party B is wasting many more votes than Party A.

¹⁴ In mathematical terms, the efficiency gap can be calculated as $(W_A - W_B) / n$, where W_A and W_B are the total number of wasted votes cast for Party A and Party B, respectively, and n is the total number of votes cast.

¹⁵ See also *Whitford*, 218 F. Supp. 3d at 905; Stephanopoulos & McGhee, *supra* note 11, at 888-89.

¹⁸ *Supra* note 1.

12. 2012 Lt. Governor
13. 2012 Auditor
14. 2012 Commissioner of Agriculture
15. 2012 Commissioner of Insurance
16. 2012 Commissioner of Labor
17. 2012 Secretary of State
18. 2012 Superintendent of Public Instruction
19. 2012 Treasurer
20. 2014 U.S. Senate

I used *Maptitude for Redistricting* to aggregate the votes for each of the districts in the NCGA Proposed House and Senate Plans and the Covington Proposed House and Senate Plans such that I had an average expected vote in each of the 120 and 50 districts respectively. I created this by adding the vote totals for the Democrats and dividing by twenty (the number of elections in the data set), and doing the same for the Republican votes.

I calculated the efficiency gap for the NCGA Proposed House and Senate Plans and the Covington Proposed House and Senate Plans at this expected value of the vote, by adding the wasted votes for the Democrats and Republicans, and dividing by the total number of votes. I then calculated the effects of swinging the vote by five percent in each direction (that is, up to five percent more favorable to Democrats, and up to five percent more favorable to Republicans), for a total swing of ten percentage points. I calculated the EG at one percent increments across this vote swing. This technique is called “sensitivity testing,” and is the standard method for predicting a plan’s performance over a range of electoral environments.

House Plans: Efficiency Gap Results

The NCGA Proposed House Plan has an extremely large EG across a range of vote shares. The expected value is -11.35% (that is, 11.35% in favor of Republican voters), but the total range of the EG for the ten percent swing in the vote goes from a high of -7.05% to a low of -12.84%.

By contrast, the Covington Proposed House Plan exhibits much lower EGs across the range of likely electoral outcomes. The expected value is -1.93% (that is 1.93% in favor of Republicans), and the total range of the EG for the ten percent swing in the vote goes from a high of -1.6% to a low of 3.38%.

The EG results from the swing analysis are shown in tabular and chart format below.

Projected vote	NCGA Proposed House Plan Efficiency Gap	Covington Proposed House Plan Efficiency Gap
Dem Vote-5%	-7.05%	-3.31%
Dem Vote -4%	-8.26%	-2.68%
Dem Vote -3%	-9.51%	-3.15%
Dem Vote -2%	-10.70%	-2.25%

Projected vote	NCGA Proposed House Plan Efficiency Gap	Covington Proposed House Plan Efficiency Gap
Dem Vote -1%	-11.04%	-3.38%
Expected EG (Statewide Dem vote share 51.4%)	-11.35%	-1.93%
Dem Vote +1%	-11.70%	-3.06%
Dem Vote +2%	-12.84%	-2.25%
Dem Vote +3%	-11.71%	-1.73%
Dem Vote +4%	-10.47%	-2.02%
Dem Vote +%5	-8.25%	-1.60%

Table 1: Efficiency Gap scores for NCGA Proposed House Plan and Covington Proposed House Plan, at Democratic vote shares from 46.4% to 56.4% (one percent intervals)

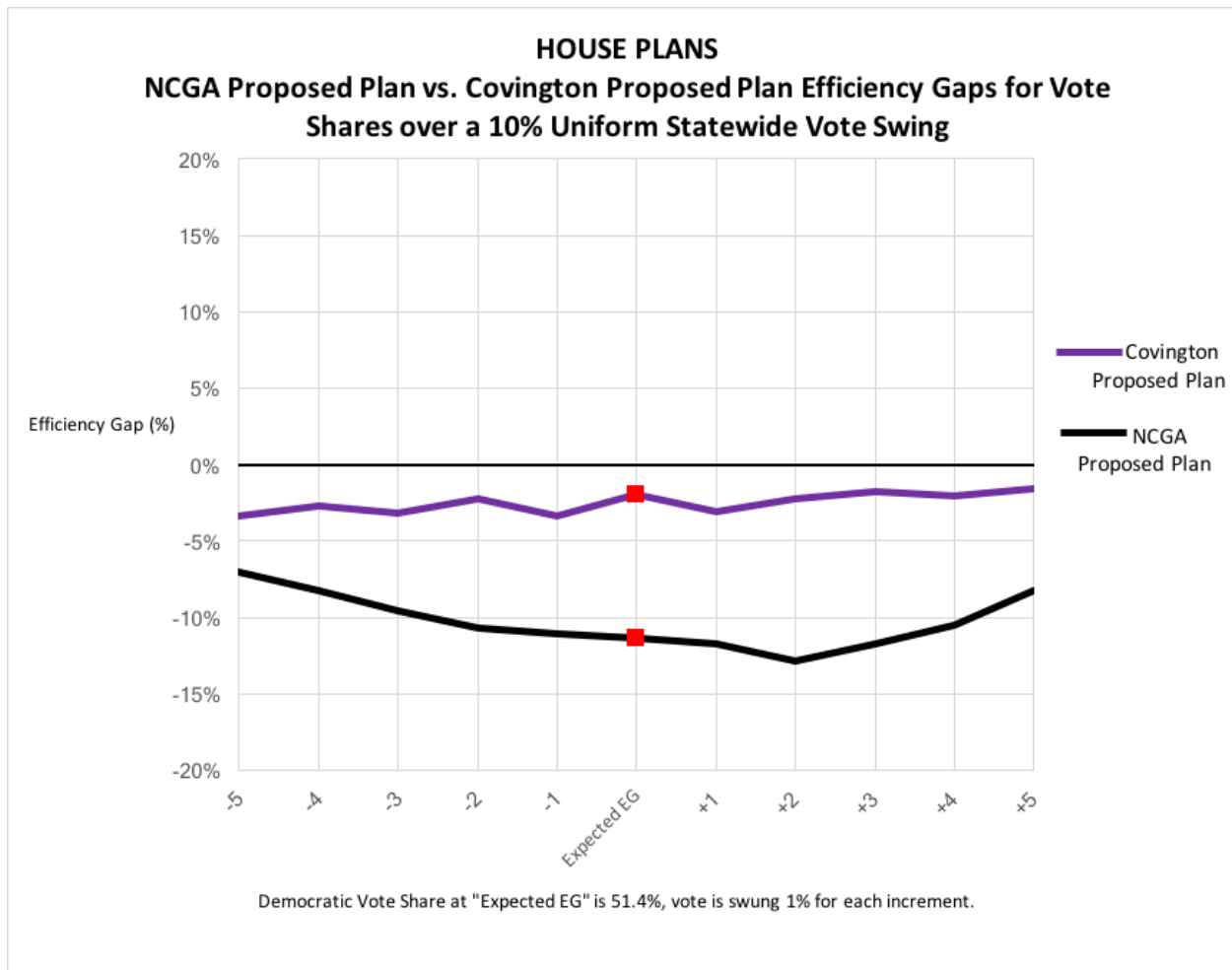


Figure 1: Efficiency Gap scores for NCGA Proposed House Plan vs. Covington Proposed House Plan at Democratic vote shares from 46.4% to 56.4% (one percent intervals)

Senate Plans: Efficiency Gap Results

The NCGA Proposed Senate Plan has an extremely large EG across a range of vote shares. The expected value is - 11.12% (that is, 11.12% in favor of Republican voters), but the total range of the EG for the ten percent swing in the vote goes from a high of -4.89% to a low of -13.49%.

By contrast, the Covington Proposed Senate Plan exhibits much lower EGs across the range of likely electoral outcomes. The expected value is -4.3% (that is 4.3% in favor of Republicans), and the total range of the EG for the ten percent swing in the vote goes from a high of 2.0% to a low of -6.2%.

The EG results from the swing analysis are shown in tabular and chart format below.

Projected vote	NCGA Proposed Senate Plan Efficiency Gap	Covington Proposed Senate Plan Efficiency Gap
Dem Vote -5%	-10.98%	-2.5%
Dem Vote -4%	-8.57%	-2.4%
Dem Vote -3%	-10.57%	-4.4%
Dem Vote -2%	-12.57%	-4.1%
Dem Vote -1%	-9.12%	-2.3%
Expected EG (Statewide Dem vote share 51.4%)	-11.12%	-4.3%
Dem Vote +1%	-11.49%	-4.2%
Dem Vote +2%	-13.49%	-6.2%
Dem Vote +3%	-8.91%	-1.8%
Dem Vote +4%	-9.30%	1.9%
Dem Vote +%5	-4.89%	2.0%

Table 2: Efficiency Gap scores for NCGA Proposed Senate Plan and Covington Proposed Senate Plan, at Democratic vote shares from 46.4% to 56.4% (one percent intervals)

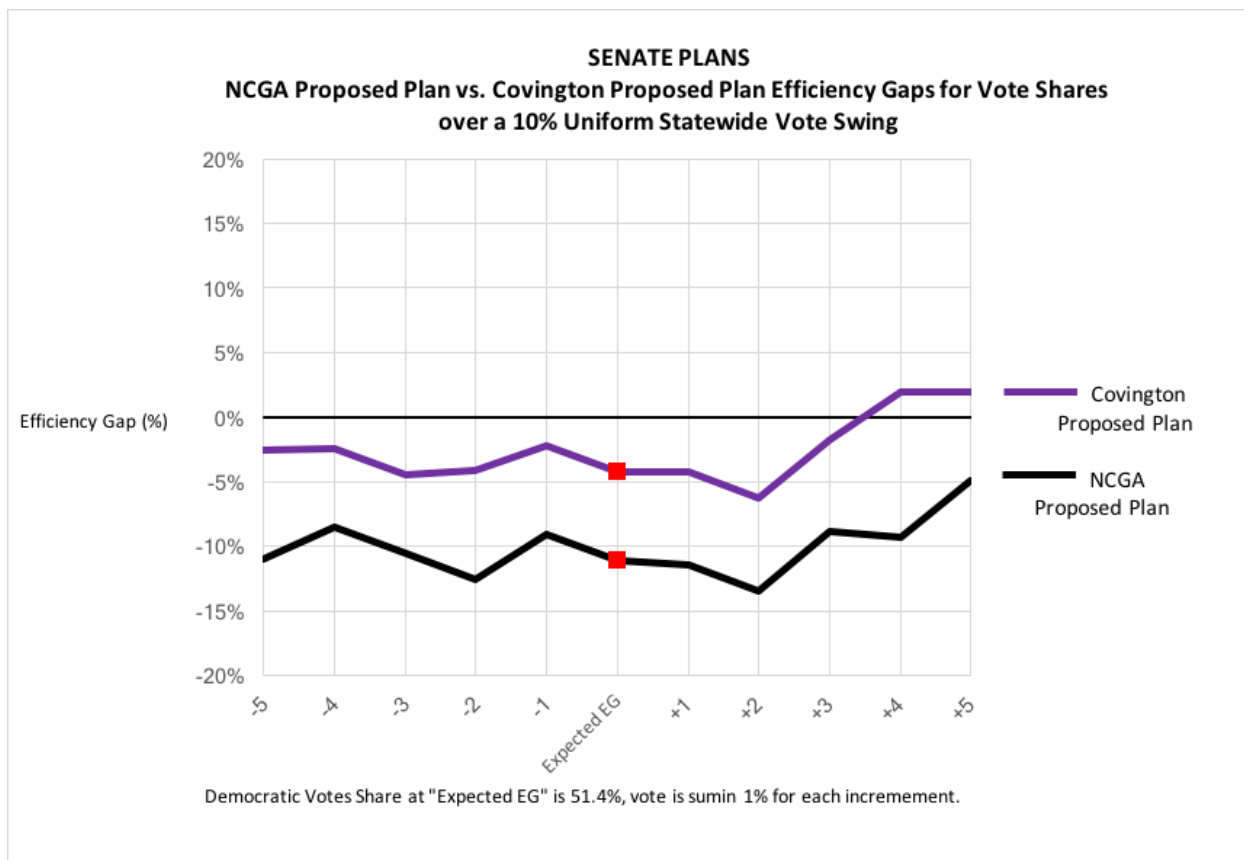


Figure 2: Efficiency Gap scores for NCGA Proposed Senate Plan vs. Covington Proposed Senate Plan at Democratic vote shares from 46.4% to 56.4% (one percent intervals)

Exhibit 5

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA
No. 1:15-cv-399**

SANDRA LITTLE COVINGTON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, et al.,

Defendants.

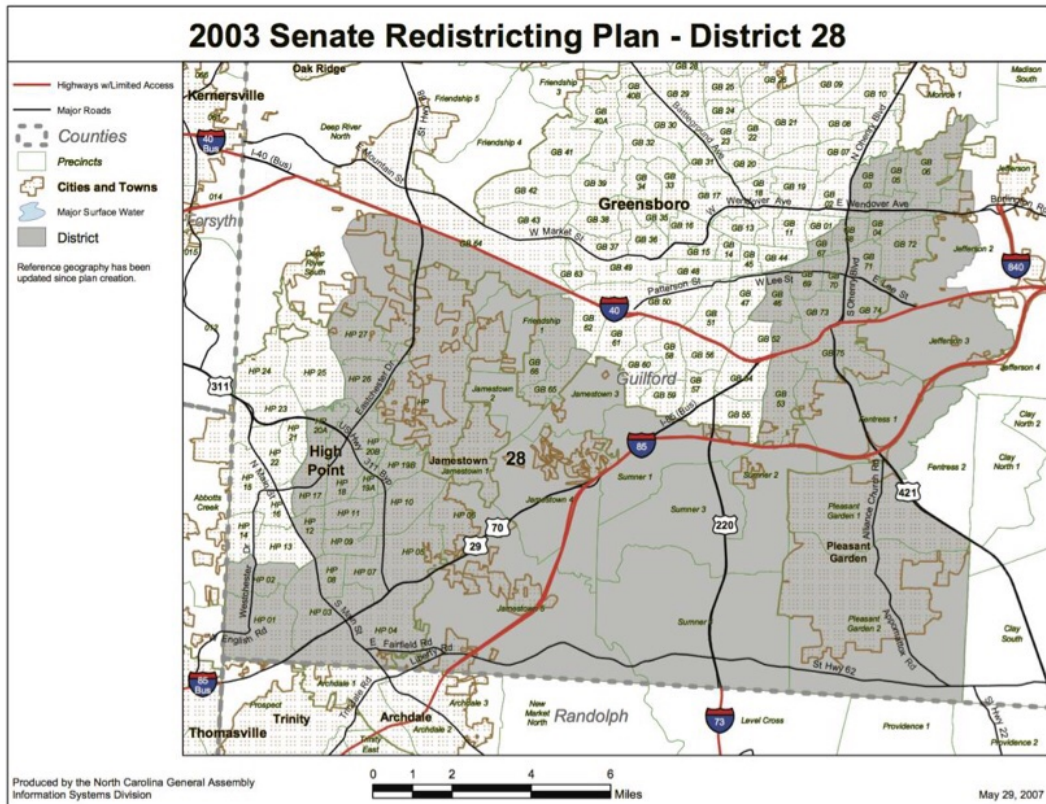
**DECLARATION OF
SEN. GLADYS A. ROBINSON**

I, Gladys A. Robinson, am over the age of 18 and fully competent to make this declaration. Under penalty of perjury, I state the following:

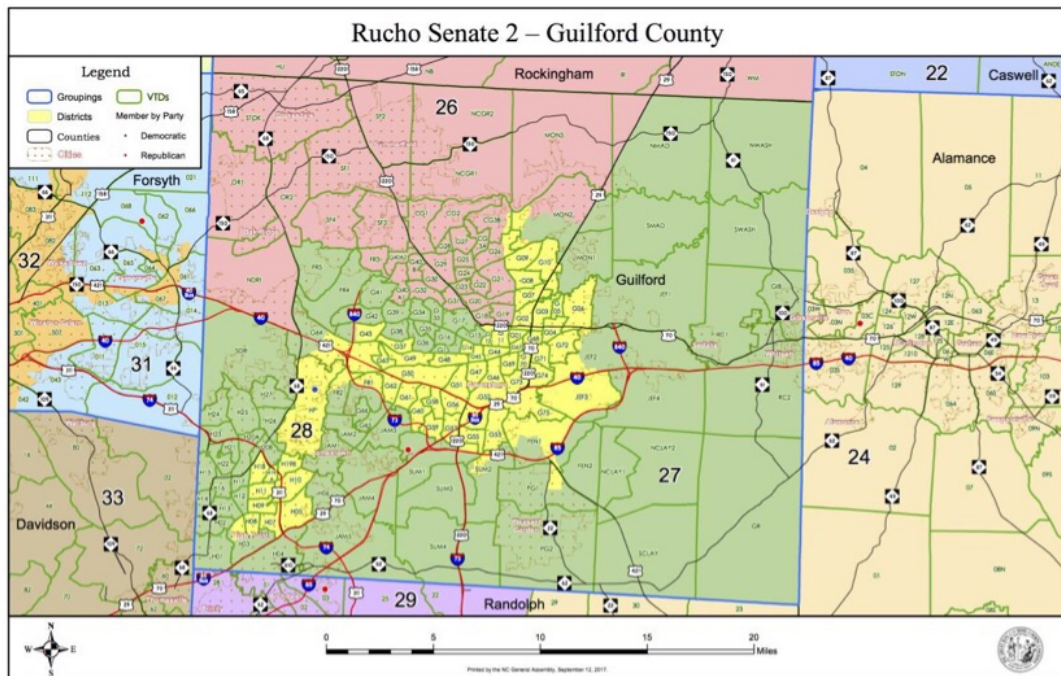
1. I am a member of the North Carolina General Assembly, representing Senate District 28 (SD 28). I have served in the North Carolina Senate since 2010.
2. The district I represent is one of the nine Senate districts that were struck down in 2016 by the federal court in *Covington v. North Carolina* as unconstitutional racial gerrymanders.

2003 and 2011 versions of Senate District 28

3. When I was elected in 2010, SD 28 included primarily southern Guilford County, with the county and its Senate districts drawn roughly on either side of Interstate 40, which runs east-west across the center of the county. The communities in my district in the southern part of the county included much of High Point, Jamestown, and Pleasant Garden. My district also included part of East Greensboro north of the interstate.
4. The pre-2011 version of SD 28 had a total black voting age population of 44.18%.
5. This is a map of the pre-2011 version of SD 28:



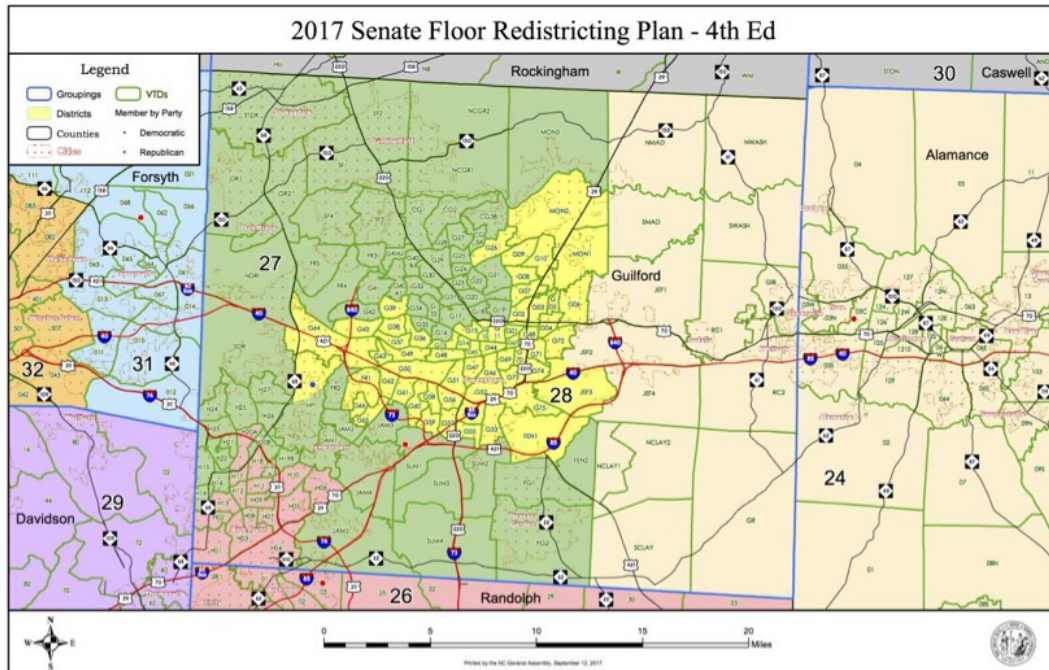
6. Since the 2011 redistricting process, SD 28 has been astride Interstate 40 in the center of the county, made up primarily of a narrow band of communities along the interstate including southern Greensboro and downtown Greensboro. Venturing away from the interstate, the current district has prominent arms reaching out into Northeast Greensboro and into part of eastern High Point, both of which are heavily African-American communities.
7. In the 2011 version of SD 28, the total black voting age population was increased to 56.49%.
8. This is a map of the 2011 version of SD 28:



9. Based on my experience campaigning in and representing such a wide variety of communities in Guilford County since 2010, I am familiar with the demographics and common interests of the various communities in Greensboro and elsewhere in the county.

Proposed 2017 version of Senate District 28

10. My first impression of Senate Bill 691, now S.L. 2017-207 ("the 2017 plan"), was that it didn't make substantial changes from the original racially gerrymandered district.
11. In the 2017 plan, SD 28 retains its core shape from 2011. Unlike the 2003 version that predated the racial gerrymandering, the district again sits astride Interstate 40 and includes a prominent arm into heavily African-American Northeast Greensboro.
12. This is a map of the 2017 version of SD 28:



Detrimental effects on High Point

13. However, in the 2017 plan, SD 28 no longer includes any part of High Point for the first time in my tenure in the Senate. My own home precinct in High Point was split to place High Point and Jamestown, both of which had been included in the pre-2011 version of SD 28, into separate districts from SD 28.
14. High Point is now part of a district that includes all of Randolph County, SD 26, which I believe will have the effect of submerging the voices of my current constituents in High Point.
15. This change also separates High Point from longstanding communities of interest in Guilford County of which it continues to be a part.
16. Like Greensboro, High Point is one of the two major urban centers in Guilford County and one of three in the larger Triad metro area that includes Winston-Salem in Forsyth County. Ongoing regional planning for the Triad on such major business interests as development around the Piedmont Triad International Airport and hosting the annual High Point Furniture Market involves all three of these urban centers working closely together. Randolph County, which lies outside the Triad, does not share these economic and development interests.
17. High Point also has shared interests with southern Guilford County, with which it shared a district before the 2011 redistricting, including commerce and

development along the Interstate 85/Business I-85 corridor, which bears heavily on the economies of High Point and southern Guilford County but does not extend into Randolph County.

Detrimental effects on communities of interest in Greensboro

18. To make up for the exclusion of High Point and Jamestown from SD 28 in the 2017 plan, populous precincts in Greensboro were added to the district. But these additions had the effect of splitting up communities of interest in Greensboro.
19. For example, the Western Guilford High School (G43) and Guilford Baptist Church (G64) precincts, both of which had been split in the 2011 plan, are adjacent to Piedmont Triad International Airport and part of a community of interest related to economic development and employment around the airport. These precincts could have been kept whole in either SD 28, which does not include any other precincts in the airport community of interest, or neighboring SD27, which includes all of the other precincts in the airport community of interest. Both precincts were placed in SD 28, separate from the remainder of their community of interest.
20. Similarly, the Morehead Elementary School (G36), Friendly Avenue Church of Christ (G38), and Greek Orthodox Church (G39) precincts, which are part of the Northwest Greensboro economic, residential, and civic community of interest, are included in SD 28 for the first time in the 2017 plan, while the rest of Northwest Greensboro remains assigned to SD 27.

Perpetuation of racial gerrymandering through precinct splitting and recombination

21. Of further concern, precincts split and recombined in the 2017 plan demonstrate how race still predominated in construction of SD 28.
22. For example, the Calvary Baptist Church (JEF2) precinct, which was split in the 2011 plan, remains split in the 2017 plan. But while in 2011 that precinct was split largely along municipal boundaries, the 2017 split no longer follows the municipal boundary for the City of Greensboro. The Calvary Baptist Church precinct includes several pockets of African-American residents.
23. Also in the northeastern part of SD 28, the Brightwood Elementary School (MON2), Hillcrest Baptist Church (G26), and Calvary Christian Center (CG3B) precincts were all split in the 2011 plan. The Brightwood Elementary and Hillcrest Baptist precincts each contain more than 45% black voting age population, and the Calvary Christian precinct contains less than 20% black voting age population. In repairing those splits in the 2017 plan, the Brightwood Elementary and Hillcrest

Baptist precincts have been left whole in SD 28, while the Calvary Christian precinct was removed from SD 28 and assigned to SD 27. Thus, the more heavily African-American precincts were included in the district while the predominantly white precinct was removed from the district.

Rejection of public feedback and less discriminatory alternatives

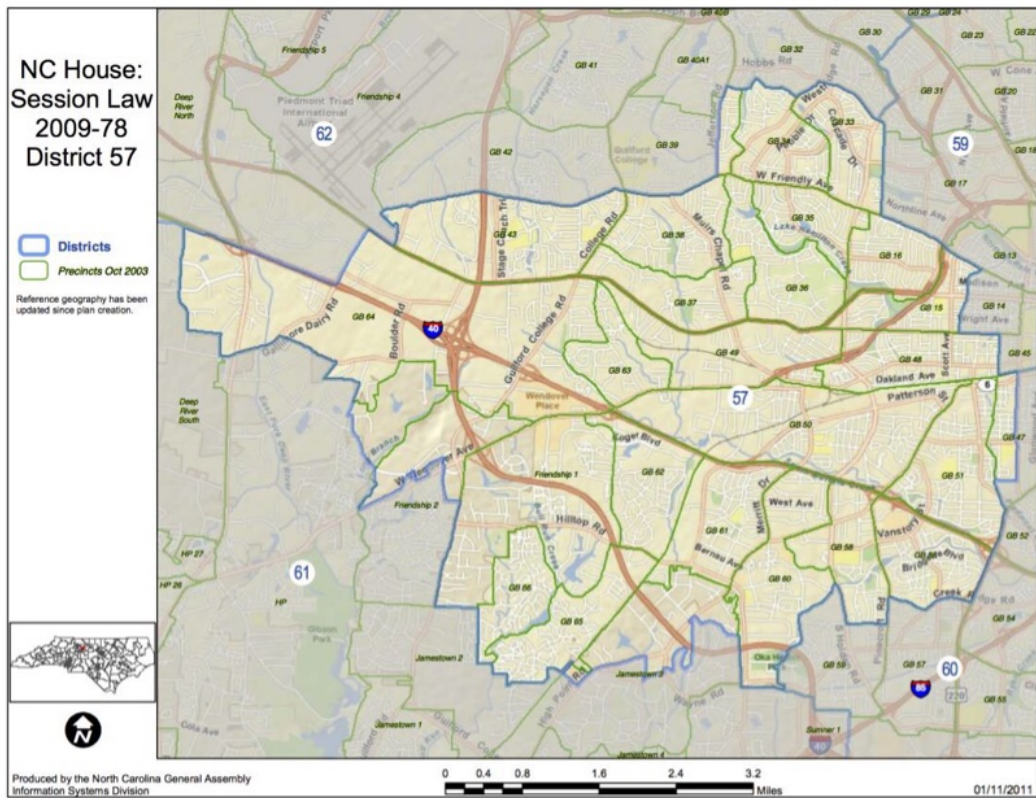
24. During the legislative process for the 2017 plan, I attended a public hearing on the plan in Jamestown, the Senate Redistricting Committee meeting at which the Senate plan was considered and voted on, and both Senate floor debates and votes on the Senate plan.
25. At each of these stages of the legislative process, the 2017 configuration of SD 28 was publicly criticized as a perpetuation of the 2011 racial gerrymander. In addition to the criticisms I heard during these public meetings and debates, I received emails, phone calls, and in-person feedback from my constituents and other Guilford County residents who opposed the 2017 plan because of concerns that the district lines in Guilford County were drawn in a way that harmed communities of color and perpetuated the racial effects of the 2011 plan.
26. My constituents and other Guilford County residents who contacted me about the 2017 plan were also frustrated and confused. They did not know which districts their neighborhoods were now in or who would be on their ballots. They were tired of what they perceived as never-ending redistricting and upheaval.
27. During the legislative process, I reviewed data provided by legislative staff that showed that the percentage total black voting age population in SD 28 is 50.52% in the 2017 plan.
28. I attended the August 24, 2017 meeting of the Senate Redistricting Committee to consider the 2017 plan, although I am not a member of that committee. During that meeting, Sen. Terry Van Duyn introduced an alternative map of SD 28 intended to correct the racial gerrymander and reduce the percentage of black voting age population in the district to pre-2011 levels. During committee debate, Sen. Van Duyn pointed out that the shape of SD 28 in the 2017 plan was very similar to the shape of the racially gerrymandered district drawn in 2011. Sen. Van Duyn's proposed version of the district did not double-bunk any incumbents. Yet the committee rejected her amendment by a 9-4 vote.
29. During the Senate floor debate on the 2017 plan on August 25, 2017, I introduced an amendment proposing more compact districts in Guilford County, including a version of SD 28 that returned the black voting age population in the district to pre-2011 levels. My amendment would not have double-bunked any incumbents,

and it split fewer precincts than the 2017 plan. Sen. Ralph Hise, the chairman of the Senate Redistricting Committee, privately asked that I withdraw my amendment and redraw my proposed districts to make them more politically favorable for their incumbents. I agreed to withdraw my amendment that day as a courtesy and consider adjustments before the Senate's final consideration of the 2017 plan.

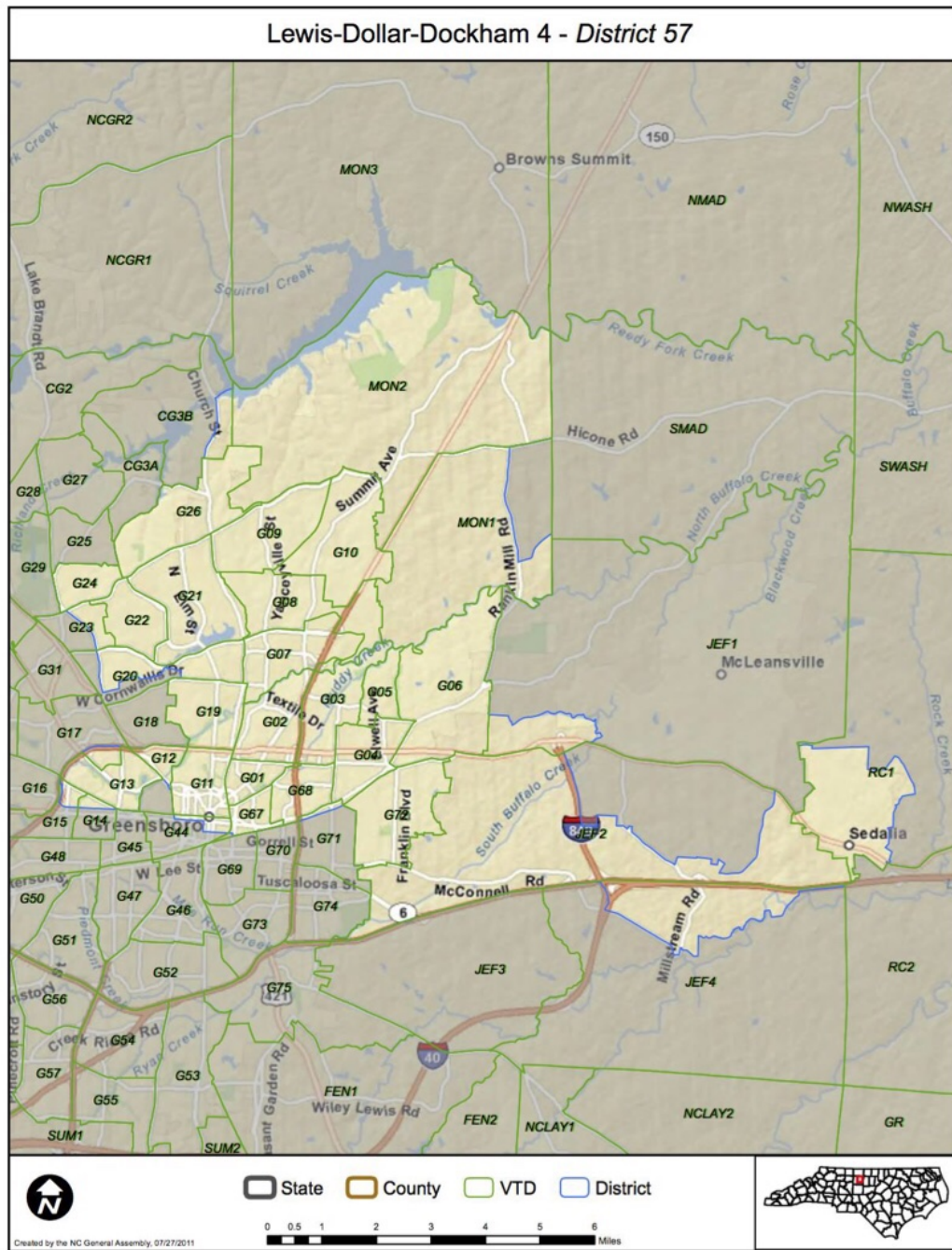
30. During the August 29, 2017 Senate floor debate on the 2017 plan, I proposed a revised alternative map of Guilford County in an attempt to compromise. Like my original amendment, my revised alternative map kept communities of interest intact in SD 27 and SD 28, did not double-bunk any incumbents, and returned the percentage black voting age population in SD 28 to pre-2011 levels. This proposed amendment failed in a 12-33 vote along party lines on the Senate floor.
31. Related to double-bunking incumbent senators in Guilford County, it is my understanding that incumbent SD 27 Sen. Trudy Wade has moved from her residence in Greensboro to Pleasant Garden.

Proposed 2017 version of House District 57

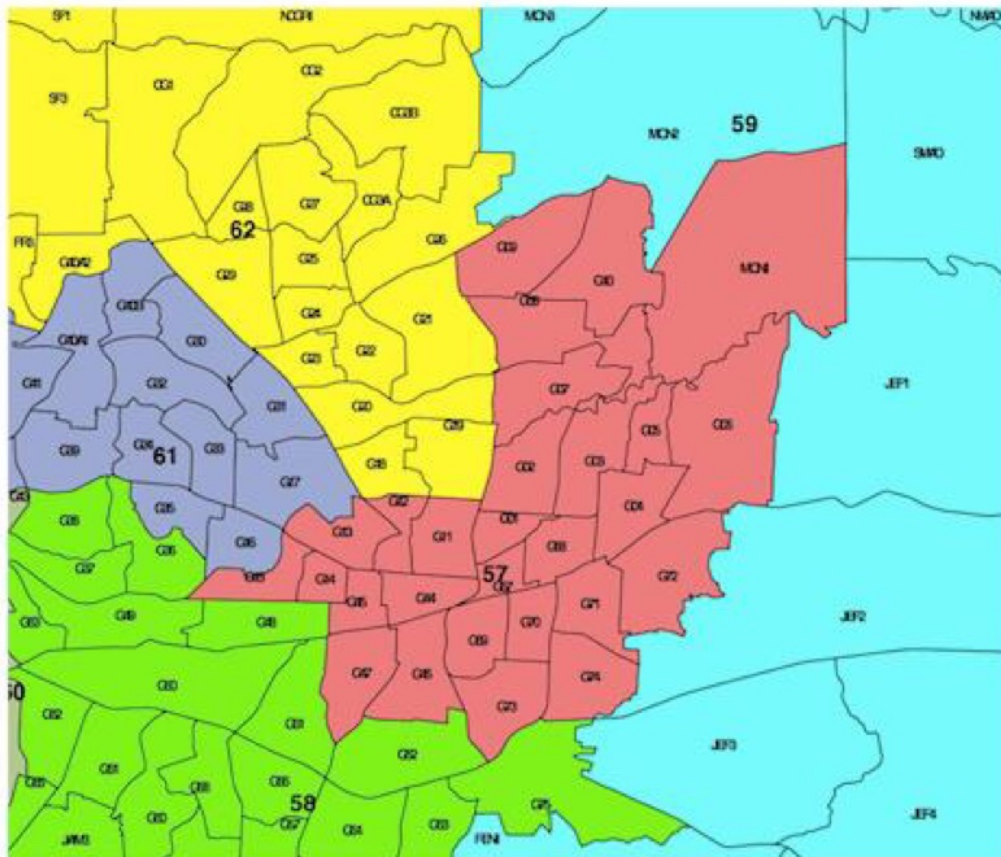
32. My first impression of House Bill 927, now S.L. 2017-208, was that it did not make substantial changes to the racially gerrymandered districts in Guilford County.
33. I am familiar with the 2011 shape of House District 57 (HD 57) because a substantial part of the district overlaps with my own district in Northeast Greensboro, and because HD 57 was another one of the Guilford County districts struck down by the *Covington* court as an unconstitutional racial gerrymander.
34. During the legislative process, I reviewed data provided by legislative staff that showed that the percentage total black voting age population in HD 57 had been increased to more than 60% in the 2017 plan. According to stat packs for the previous plans, before 2011 HD 57 had a total black voting age population of 21.38%, and in 2011 the total black voting age population was increased to 50.69%.
35. This is a map of the pre-2011 version of HD 57:



36. This is a map of the 2011 version of HD 57:



37. This is a map of the 2017 version of HD 57:



38. The increase in black voting age population in HD 57 greatly concerns me. Based on my experience and knowledge of the communities included in both the 2011 and pre-2011 versions of HD 57, I know that incumbent Rep. Pricey Harrison has been the candidate of choice of African-American voters in her district for years, dating back to before the 2011 redistricting. I am confident that increasing the percentage black voting age population in HD 57 is unnecessary for African-American voters there to continue to elect their candidate of choice.
39. I am also troubled by the pattern of neighborhoods moved into and out of HD 57 to achieve the higher black voting age population numbers in the 2017 plan. In particular, the 2017 plan adds a prominent heavily populated African-American community to HD 57 and removes a prominent heavily white neighborhood, which is assigned to another district.
40. In the 2011 version of HD 57, two precincts in the Irving Park area were split between HD 57 and another district. Irving Park is one of the wealthiest and most heavily white neighborhoods in the city, and is part of a community of interest with other well established neighborhoods close to downtown, most notably Fisher Park. In the 2017 plan, all of the Irving Park area precincts have been removed

from HD 57 altogether and assigned to HD 62, which stretches into Northwest Greensboro, a separate community of interest, and Oak Ridge, a municipality in a rural part of the county. Meanwhile, Fisher Park remains assigned to HD 57 in the 2017 plan, along with other areas near downtown.

41. Furthering the concentration of African-American voters in the district, the 2017 plan adds southeast Greensboro to HD 57. Southeast Greensboro is a densely populated, heavily African-American community. Southeast Greensboro was not included as part of either the 2011 or the pre-2011 version of HD 57.
42. All of the facts and information contained within this declaration are within my personal knowledge and are true and correct.
43. This declaration is not intended to capture all of my knowledge or experiences that may be related to this matter.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on this 12th day of September, 2017.

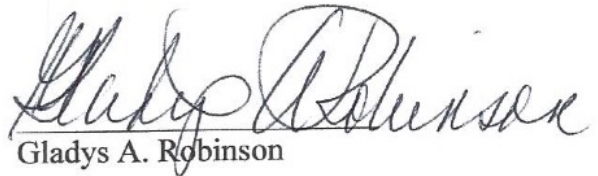

Gladys A. Robinson

Exhibit 6

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA**

No. 1:15-cv-399

SANDRA LITTLE COVINGTON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, et al.,

Defendants.

**DECLARATION OF
ANTHONY E. FAIRFAX**

I, Anthony E. Fairfax, am over the age of 18 and fully competent to make this declaration. Under penalty of perjury, I state the following:

Introduction

1. I was asked to examine the racial demographics of four districts in the 2017 House and Senate plans enacted by the North Carolina General Assembly on August 31, 2017. Those districts are senate district (SD) 21 & 28, and house district (HD) 21 and 57. In addition, it was requested that I examine how those districts divide the related municipal boundaries. As a result of my examination, I was asked to prepare maps that visually illustrate the racial characteristics of the voting age population in these districts (with a specific focus, on black voting age population).
2. Currently, I am a demographic and mapping consultant and CEO/Principal Consultant of CensusChannel LLC. In that role, I have developed several hundred redistricting plans during the last three redistricting cycles. For the last twenty-six years, I have provided consulting services for numerous non-profit and public sector groups centering on redistricting plan development, analysis, and training.
3. Throughout this recent redistricting cycle, I have provided services and/or training for several notable organizations including: The Advancement Project, Congressional Black Caucus Institute, Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus

(LLBC), National NAACP, the Southern Coalition for Social Justice (SCSJ), and the Alabama Democratic Conference (ADC).

4. In addition, I have testified in federal and state court and provided several depositions as a redistricting expert with a focus on demographic and mapping analysis. Recently, I testified twice in the latest Federal Texas redistricting case. Testimony in this case included analysis of several congressional and house district plans for the state of Texas focusing on certain characteristics, including population deviation, compactness, political subdivision splits and communities of interest. Prior to that testimony.
5. I also testified in the precursor Texas case of *Perez v. Perry*, which included reviewing and analyzing Texas congressional and house district plans using traditional redistricting principles with a focus on compactness. The analysis in the Texas case also included providing demographic projections for congressional and legislative house districts. In North Carolina statewide redistricting cases, I have analyzed the compactness and demographics of congressional and state legislative districts. Additionally, I have generated maps that analyzed split precincts as well as developed Alabama statewide senate and house redistricting plans, both submitted to the court in a recent case in Alabama.
6. In the course of this redistricting cycle, I was involved in several unique redistricting opportunities that were afforded to me because of my expertise. I was one of the two Project Managers for a week-long redistricting expert preparation session. The training session was sponsored by Duke University's Center for the Study of Race, Ethnicity and Gender in the Social Sciences (RGESS) and the SCSJ. In that capacity I developed and managed a section focused on preparing 18 political cartographers, with Geographic Information System (GIS) backgrounds, with the goal of them becoming redistricting demographic and mapping related experts.
7. Another such opportunity included performing the duties as consulting demographer and project director for the Congressional Black Caucus Institute's Redistricting Project. In that role, I provided redistricting plan development, review and analysis as well as answered various questions pertaining to the redistricting process.
8. The details of my redistricting/GIS experience and work as an expert are contained within my attached resume (see Appendix 1).

Methodology

9. The data utilized were obtained from the North Carolina General Assembly website. Two forms of data were utilized for the analysis, geographic (which

included the recent shapefile boundaries for the senate and house plans) and demographic (which included the redistricting population base data). The plan that was analyzed for the senate districts was Senate Bill 691, 2017 Senate Floor Redistricting Plan – 4th Ed.¹ The plan for the house districts was House Bill 927, 2017 House Redistricting Plan A2.²

10. The demographic data obtained from the NC General Assembly website were in ESRI geodatabase format that were previously merged with their respective geographic boundaries of blocks, VTDs, cities (places), and counties.³
11. The software utilized for the analysis was ArcMap (a component of ArcGIS by ESRI). ArcGIS is one of the most widely used full capability Geographic Information Systems (GIS) on the market. ArcMap is widely used by businesses, consultants and governmental entities for geospatial analysis.
12. Thematic color maps were generated using ArcMap to view the concentration and illustrate the black voting age populations (BVAP) contained within and around the targeted senate and house districts in North Carolina.
13. The thematic maps consisted of coloring the census blocks (blocks) or voting tabulation blocks (VTDs) by their respective BVAP percentage. In order to provide better insight to the disbursement of black voting age population, both 4 and 5 intervals (intervals) were used. The four interval maps provided break points of 25% (e.g. 25%, 50%, etc.). Since the four interval thematic maps include break points at 50% and 75%, they provide an excellent graphical depiction of which blocks are majority black and significantly black. Throughout the maps a color consistency was deployed. For example, all district boundaries were presented in a dark blue while the focus city was presented in a transparent green.
14. The 5 interval thematic maps included breaks for the BCVAP%⁴ of 20% (20%, 40%, etc.). The 5 interval maps provided insight to whether blocks with slightly less than 50% are contained within the districts. The 40% to 60% interval captured a more realistic depiction of the demographic disbursement that was slightly below 50% than the 25% to 50% interval used in the four interval maps.

¹ Senate Bill 691, 2017 Senate Floor Redistricting Plan – 4th Ed.

<http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2017/s691maps/s691maps.html>

² House Bill 927, 2017 House Redistricting Plan A2

<http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2017/h927maps/h927maps.html>

³ <http://www.ncleg.net/representation/Content/BaseData/BD2011.aspx>

⁴ For this examination, BCVAP included “all” voting age populations that are black.

15. The four interval maps use the colors of red for BVAP% greater than 75%, orange for 50% to 75%, pale for 25% to 50% and white for 0% to 25%. The five interval maps use the colors of red for BVAP% greater than 80%, orange for 60% to 80%, yellow for 40% to 60%, pale for 20% to 40% and white for 0% to 20%. These color schemes were used for both block and VTD level thematic maps.
16. Once the thematic maps were generated, observation were made on each district regarding to the district location and configuration of black voting age population. These observations included whether majority BVAP blocks or VTDs were grouped together and included in the district and whether majority white areas were not added or have the appearance of being carved out of the district.

Summary of Key Findings of SB691 SD21

17. The thematic map in Appendix 2 reveals that the district wholly contains Hoke county and a portion of Cumberland county. The map also indicates that all of the majority black VTDs for both Hoke and Cumberland counties are contained within SD21 (Appendix 2). This can be seen on the map by viewing the VTDs that are red and orange. These VTDs are only included inside the district for both counties. In addition, when viewing the district at the block level, SD21 contains the bulk of the majority black blocks that are within the county boundaries (see Appendix 3).
18. SD21 also extends from Hoke county into Fayetteville located in Cumberland, county. When examining the district in Fayetteville, SD21 cuts through downtown Fayetteville and only includes the majority black VTDs as well as practically all of the majority black blocks (Figure 1 and Appendix 4). Figure 1 and the maps in Appendix 4 show the green transparent overlay for Fayetteville. Both Fayetteville zoom maps show that the district encompasses the majority and significantly black areas (red, orange, yellow on the 5-interval) and includes them in the district. At the same time, it avoids the majority white areas of Fayetteville, shown with the light green background (Figure 1).
19. Lastly, SD21 includes a VTD that is split with a significant number of blocks that are majority black and contained within the district. A review of the map in Appendix 5 shows that a substantial number of majority black blocks in G2 have been placed in SD21 (below the blue SD21 boundary line for the district). The maps in Appendix 5 shows a cluster of black population residing in the area on the southern border of G2 (red, orange, yellow).

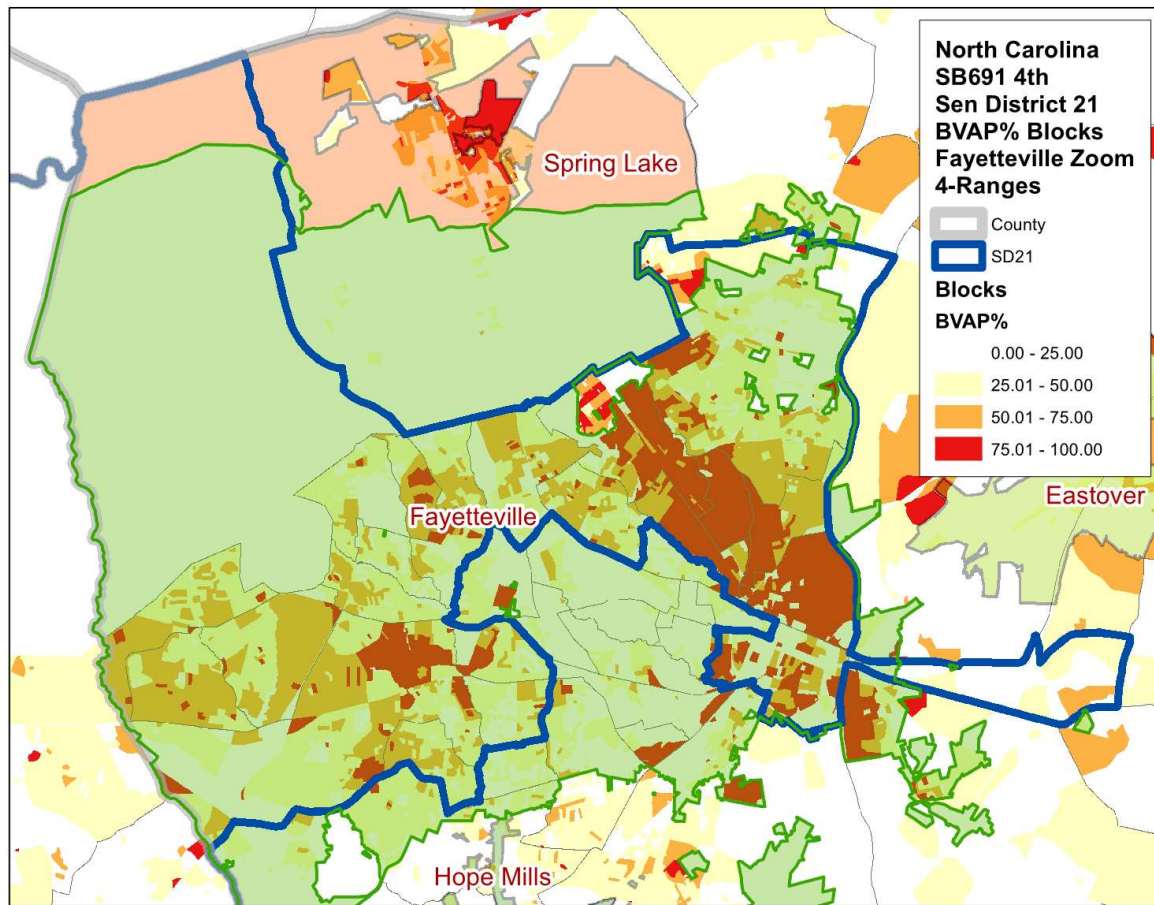


Figure 1 – BVAP% Map of Fayetteville, NC of SD21 at the Block Level

Summary of Key Findings of SB691 SD28

20. Examination of the map in Appendix 6 shows that SD28 is wholly contained within Guilford county. The next map in Appendix 7 also indicates that the district boundaries (blue lines) include all of the majority black VTDs within Greensboro, NC.
21. The block level maps found in Appendix 8, shows that SD28 follows the contour of the majority or significant black populated blocks. This can be seen by viewing the red, orange, and yellow blocks that are included in the district that spans the northeast to southeast and southeast to southwest portions of Greensboro (Figure 2). This configuration forms the reverse “L” shape of the district. Most of the remaining portions of Greensboro, which are majority white areas, are left out of the district.

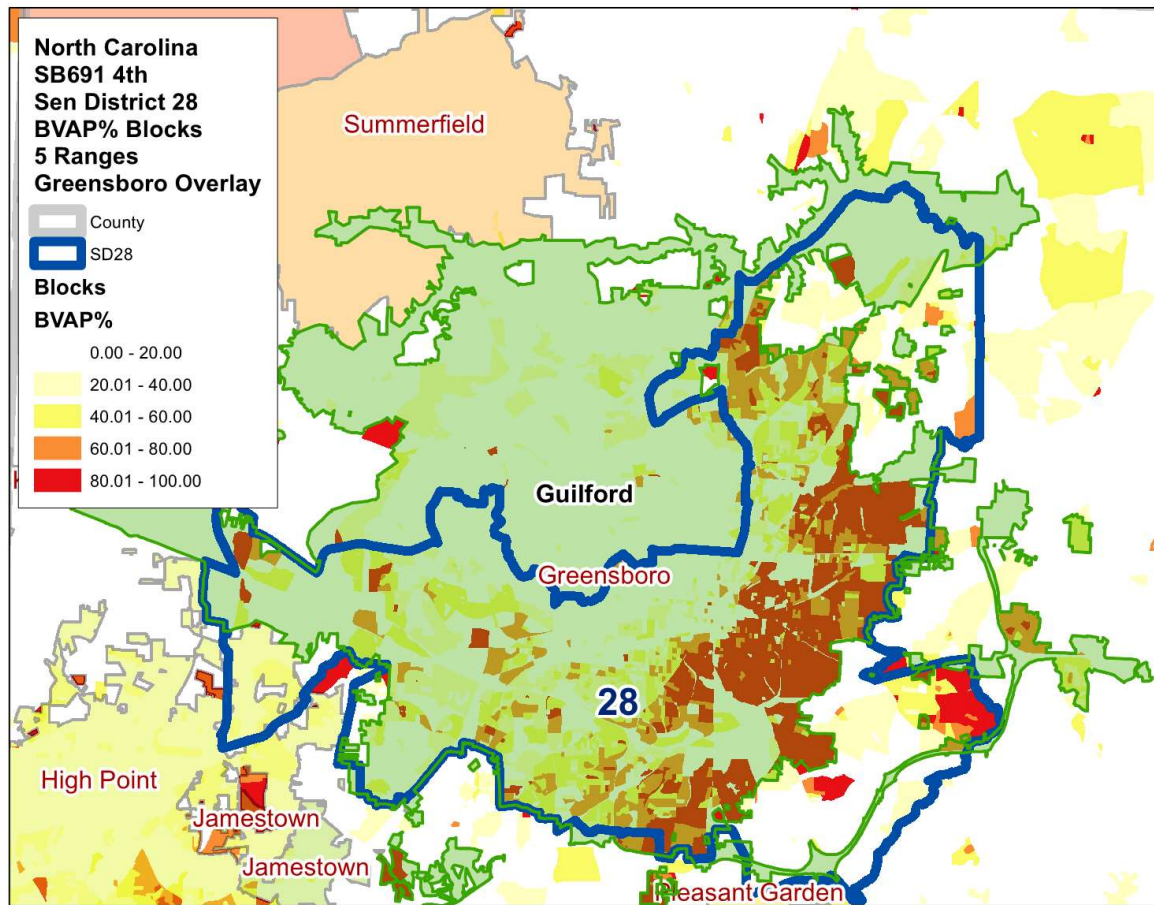


Figure 2 – BVAP% Map of SD28 at the Block Level w/Greensboro Overlay

Summary of Key Findings of HB927 HD21

22. The map of Appendix 9 shows that HD21 extends from the northeast of Sampson county to the central area of Wayne county.
23. Examination of the map in Appendix 9 shows that HD21 contains all of the majority black VTDs within Sampson and Wayne counties, with the exception of one VTD located in Sampson county (not shown on the maps provided).
24. The block level maps contained in Appendix 10 show similar results as the VTD maps, specifically in Wayne county. With the exception of a few blocks located in the north section of Wayne, the overwhelming amount of majority black blocks are contained with the district.
25. Another observation was made for Clinton, NC, which is located near central Sampson county. Only the VTDs and mostly the blocks that contain significant

black population in Clinton, NC are included in the district. Reviewing Appendix 11, areas shown in the light green represent majority white census blocks that lie outside of the boundaries of the district.

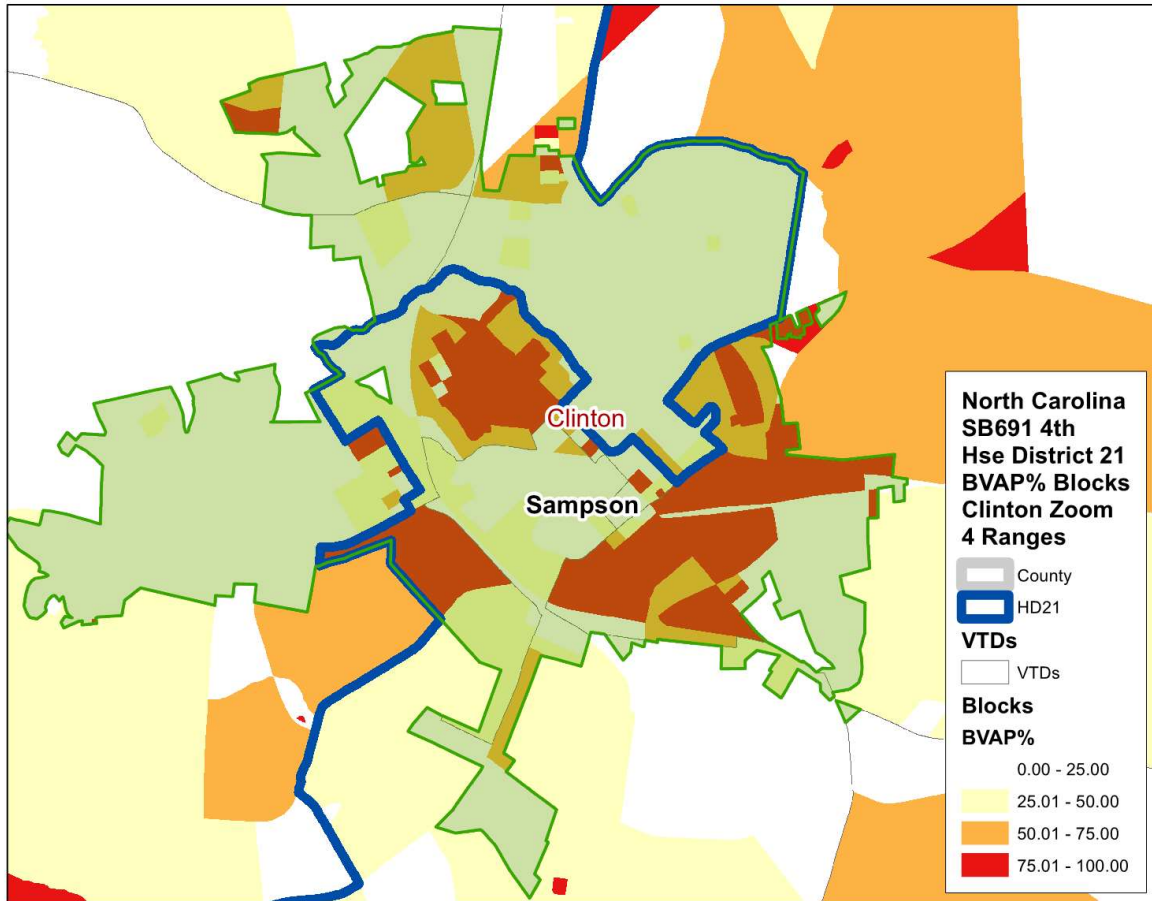


Figure 3 – BVAP% Map of HD21 at the Block Level w/Clinton Overlay

Summary of Key Findings of HB927 HD57

26. Examination of the map in Appendix 12 shows that HD57 is wholly contained within Guilford county and consisting of mostly majority black VTDs. The next map in Appendix 13 also indicates that the district boundaries include the bulk of the majority black blocks that are contained within Greensboro, NC. As with senate district 28, which it located in the same Greensboro area, the districts form a reverse “L” shape that gathers black blocks from northeast to southeast and traverses from southeast toward the west on the southern end of the district.

27. Finally, Figure 4 below as well as the maps contained within Appendix 14 shows that the HD57 is formed by following mostly the majority black and significantly black blocks on the northeast to southeast part of Greensboro.

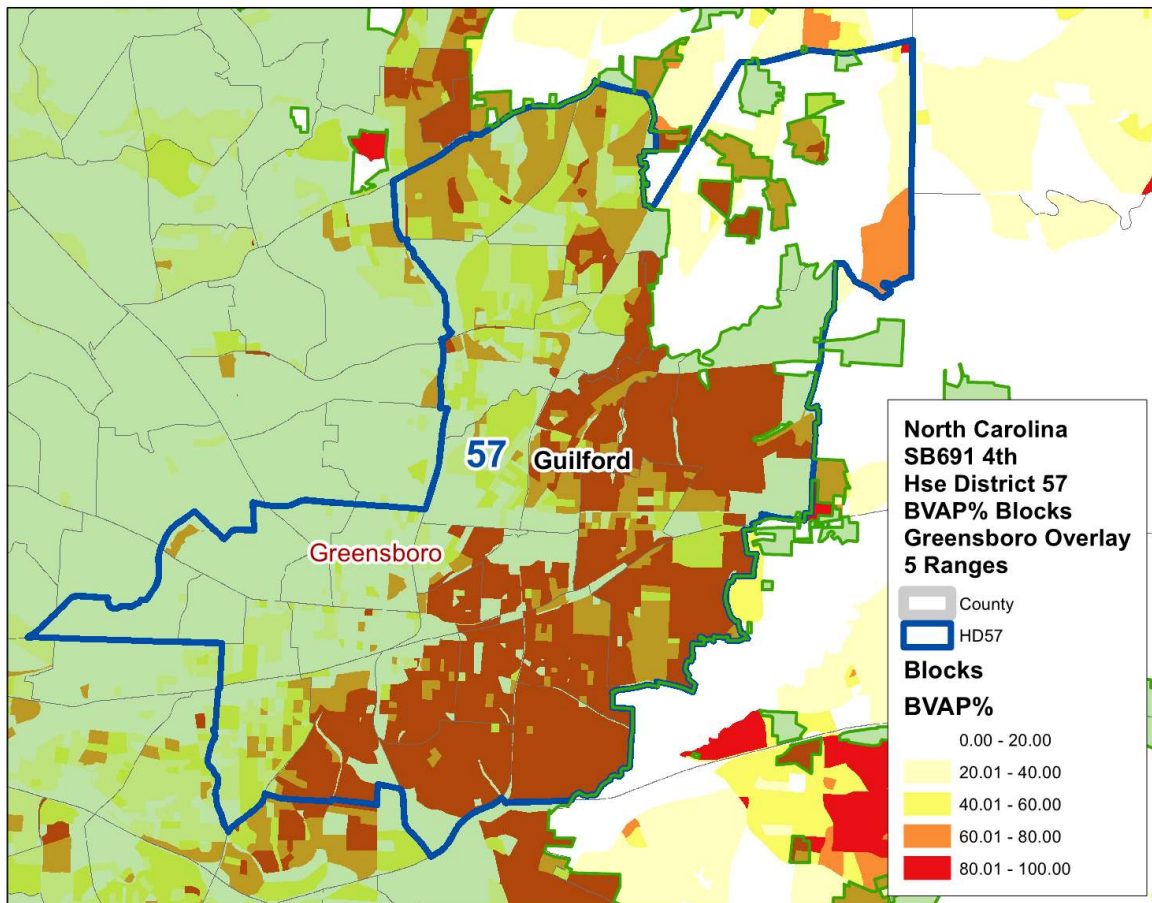


Figure 4 – BVAP% Map of HD57 at the Block Level w/Greensboro Overlay

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on this 15 day of September, 2017.


Anthony E. Fairfax

Appendix 1

Anthony "Tony" Fairfax

16 Castle Haven Road, Hampton, Virginia 23666

Office Telephone: (757) 838-3881/Home Telephone: (757) 838-0832

Email: fairfax@censuschannel.com

Experience Highlights:

- Demographic, Geographic & Voter Data Analysis
- Multiple GIS Software/Census Data Skillset
- Redistricting Plan Development & Analysis
- Expert Report Development & Court Testimony
- Project Management, Planning & Budgeting
- Client Acquisition, Collaboration & Support
- Professional Presentation/Training Experience
- Manual/Book Publication Development

Education:

Master of Geospatial Information Science and Technology (2016)
North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina

Graduate Certificate in Geospatial Information Science (2016)
North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina

Bachelor of Science Degree in Electrical Engineering (1982)
Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia

Work Experience:

CensusChannel LLC, Hampton, VA (2009 - Present)

CEO & Principal Consultant - Providing overall project management and operations as well as primary consulting services for clients. Also, responsible for customer acquisition and support. Core tasks include GIS-centered services: redistricting support (extensive use and analysis of traditional redistricting criteria or guidelines); demographic/socioeconomic, geographic, voting data; GIS/Census Data/Redistricting training; GIS data processing/conversion; expert redistricting plan development, analysis, depositions, testimony, and training. Major clientele and projects include:

- **The Rehab Crew, Durham, NC (2017 - Present)** - Providing geospatial & demographic analysis as well as website development and a proprietary application for use of targeting real estate investment properties.
- **Southern Coalition for Social Justice [SCSJ], Durham, NC (2015 - 2016)** - Provided several expert reports, depositions and testimony for multiple redistricting court cases in North Carolina. Testimony, depositions and reports included numerous plans at the congressional, state senate, state house, and local jurisdiction level. Analysis covered certain district characteristics, including population deviation, political subdivision splits, partisan performance, and incumbent effect analysis.
- **Congressman G.K. Butterfield, NC (2016)** - Developed several congressional district plan alternatives for the State of North Carolina. Provided various analysis on alternative district configurations.
- **Alabama Democratic Conference (ADC), Montgomery, AL (2015 - 2016)** - Developed state senate and house redistricting plans for the state of Alabama in response to the *ADC v Alabama* court case. Also, provided a series of thematic maps depicting areas added from the previous plan to the enacted plan, displaying concentrations of African American voters that were added to the enacted plan.
- **Net Communications, Tallahassee, FL (2014 - 2015)** - Generated offline mapping and online web services (ArcGIS.com) of client's energy company's resources and organizational assets. Mapping included demographic, socioeconomic, and other resources of the energy company.

- **National NAACP Office of General Counsel, Baltimore, MD (2012 - 2013)** - Provided project management and developmental support for the creation of a final report for the NAACP National Redistricting Project. Provided planning, organizing, supplemental writing, and interfacing with graphics entity for the complete development of the final report.
- **Congressional Black Caucus Institute, Washington, DC (2011 - 2012)** - Provided contract duties as the Project Director and Consulting Demographer for the Congressional Black Caucus Institute's Redistricting Project. Provided project management, redistricting plan development, review, analysis, advice, and answers to various questions pertaining to redistricting plans, principles, and processes.
- **Mississippi NAACP, Jackson, MS (2011)** - Developed state senate plans and analyzed enacted plans that were developed by the State Court.
- **African American Redistricting Collaborative (AARC) of California, Los Angeles, CA (2011)** - Provided demographic and redistricting contracted services. Responsible for developing congressional, state senate and state assembly plans for the collaborative. Special focus was given to the southern Los Angeles area (SOLA) and the Bay Area region. In addition to plan development, several socioeconomic maps were developed to show various communities of interest commonalities.

Developed a demographic profile using maps and reports of California's congressional, state senate, and state assembly districts for the purpose of preparing for the redistricting plan development process by identifying areas of growth throughout the state. The profiles included data from the American Community Survey (ACS) 2005-2009 and the 2010 Census.

- **The Advancement Project, Washington, DC (2011)** - Provided redistricting plan development services and training. Included was the development of a base map for a new seven (7) district plan in New Orleans that were further developed by community groups in Louisiana. The second effort included training a staff person on the use of Maptitude for Redistricting as well as on various redistricting scenarios.
- **Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus (LLBC), Baton Rouge, LA (2011)** - Provided redistricting plan development services. Responsibilities included supporting the Caucus members' efforts to develop state house, state senate, and congressional redistricting plans. Developed or analyzed over eighty different redistricting plans. The effort also included testifying in front of the Louisiana Senate and Governmental Affairs committee.
- **Community Policy Research & Training Institute (One Voice), Jackson, MS (2011)** - Developed Mississippi State Senate plan along with appropriate reports and large scaled map.
- **National Black Caucus of State Legislators (NBCSL), Washington, DC (2010)** - Provided services as the Project Director for a 2010 census outreach effort. Developed proposal and managed personnel to generate and execute a strategy to utilize black state senate and house legislators to place targeted posters in select hard-to-count (HTC) areas throughout the country.
- **Duke University's Center for REGSS & SCSJ, Durham, NC (2010 - 2011)** - Contracted to serve as one of two Project Coordinators to support an expert preparation workshop hosted by Duke University's REGSS and the Southern Coalition for Social Justice.

Project Coordinator duties included developing, managing, and providing hands-on training for the Political Cartographer's side of a week-long intensive "redistricting expert" preparation workshop. The workshop trained 18 political cartographers, who came from various parts of the country, on all aspects of redistricting plan development and principles. Also, developed two hands-on redistricting scenarios that were developed in order for the workshop to train large audiences on the plan development process without the use of computers.

Democracy South, Virginia Beach, VA (2004 - 2008)

Senior Technical Consultant - Provided technical, GIS mapping, data analysis, and management support for several projects and civic engagement related efforts. Major project efforts included:

- Senior Technical Consultant for the National Unregistered Voter Map. Developed a web-based interactive map that allowed visitors to view state/county level information pertaining to the number of unregistered voters (2009)
- Co-Director of the Hampton Roads Missing Voter Project (a nonpartisan nonprofit voter engagement effort to increase voter participation with a focus on underrepresented population groups). The effort covered the seven major Independent cities in Hampton Roads. Responsibilities included co-managing the overall civic engagement effort and was solely responsible for integrating and processing Catalist voter data into targeting maps and walk lists for all focus areas. Directly Responsible for overseeing the operations in Hampton, Newport News, Portsmouth, and Suffolk, Virginia (2008)
- Senior Technical Consultant for Civic Engagement Efforts. Provided telephone technical voter database support to 17 USAction state partners in 2004; and 12 USAction state partners in 2006. Trained client on VBASE voter data software; Performed voter data conversion; and voter targeting assistance.

Congressional Black Caucus Institute, Redistricting Project, Washington D.C. (2001 - 2003)

Consulting Demographer - Provided services that included the development, review, and analysis for over 75 congressional district plans. Responsible for all setup and configuration of hardware and GIS software. Also, performed the development and analysis of redistricting plans. Congressional district plans were developed for 22 states. Also, performed as a redistricting expert advisor in a consolidated U.S. District court Voting Rights case in Alabama.

National Voter Fund, Washington, D.C. (2000)

GIS Consultant (in a consulting partnership of Hagens & Fairfax) - Developed hundreds of precinct targeting maps for a civic engagement effort designed to increase the turnout in the November 2000 election. Efforts included: geocoding voter data; census data integration; and precinct mapping.

Norfolk State University, Poli. Science & Computer Science Dept., Norfolk, Virginia (1996 - 2001)

Adjunct Faculty - Provided instruction to students for BASIC Programming, Introduction to Computer Science, and Computer Literacy courses.

GeoTek. Inc. (formally GIS Associates), Virginia Beach, VA (1992 - 1995)

Consultant and Co-owner - Provided geodemographic research and analysis; client technical & training support; hardware/software system installation; and redistricting manual/ brochure development. Major clients and tasks included:

- New York City Housing Authority - Redistricting Training
- Maryland State Office of Planning - Redistricting Tech Support
- City of Virginia Beach, VA Planning Dept. - Redistricting Training/Tech Support
- City of Norfolk, VA Registrar - Redistricting Training/Tech Support
- City of Chesapeake, VA Registrar - Precinct Realignment

Norfolk State University, Political Science Dept., Norfolk, Virginia (1991 - 1999)

GIS Consultant - Provided a variety of geographic and demographically related tasks. Major Redistricting related tasks included:

- Installed and operated the LogiSYS ReapS software that was used to perform the bulk of redistricting plans. Performed the intricate ReapS processing of the U.S. Census Bureau Topographically Integrated Geographic Encoded Referencing (TIGER) line files, Public Law 94-171 (PL94-171) demographic data, and the STF socioeconomic data series.
- Developed over 200 hundred redistricting plans, located in over 60 jurisdictions, in the states of Florida, Louisiana, North Carolina, Texas, and Virginia. Developed plans from city/county to legislative to congressional district.
- Traveled to and trained several university faculty personnel on setting up and utilizing the ReapS redistricting system. Also, trained on redistricting plan development principles.

Major GIS related tasks included:

- Performed a study commissioned by the U.S. Department of Transportation to analyze the ethnic differences in commuting behavior. This study extensively utilized the Summary Tape File 3 A (STF3 A) and Public Microdata Sample (PUMS) data to locate, map and report the frequency and average travel time to and from work for: Miami, FL MSA; Kansas City, MO-KS MSA; and Detroit, MI MSA.
- Performed a study funded by the City of Norfolk, VA and NSU School of Business that determined and analyzed the trade area of a section located in Norfolk, VA. Major duties included: geocoding customer addresses; producing address point maps; and developing demographic reports for the project.
- Performed a study commissioned by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to revitalize a neighborhood located in Norfolk, VA. The purpose of the GIS component was to first establish a socioeconomic base-line then track the progress of the revitalized area as well select surrounding areas. Geocoded address locations, generated point as well as demographic thematic maps, and produced reports of the target areas.
- Provided demographic analysis of proposed newly incorporated areas in Florida for local Florida civic organizations.

Cooperative Hampton Roads Org. for Minorities in Engineering, Norfolk, VA (1991 - 1992)

Computer Consultant - Designed and developed a menu driven student database, used to track hundreds of minority Junior High and High School students that were interested in pursuing science or engineering degrees.

Norfolk State University, School of Education, Norfolk VA (1990 - 1991)

Technical Consultant/Computer Lab Manager- Provided a variety of support to include hardware and software installation; faculty workshops; course instruction; Network Administrator; and technical support.

Engineering and Economics Research (EER) Systems (1989)

Technical Consultant - Coordinated and participated in writing, editing, and formatting technical test documents; central role in the development of the Acceptance Test Procedures for the initial phase of a multimillion dollar Combat Maneuver Training Complex (CMTC) in Hohenfels, Germany; the final review and editing of all test documentation.

Executive Training Center (ETC). Newport News, VA (1988 - 1989)

Vice President & Co-owner - Managed over 11 part-time and full-time employees; assisted in developing and implementing company policies; performed the duties of the Network Administrator for a Novell-based computer training network; and taught several courses by substituting for instructors when necessary (1988- 1989).

Engineering & Economics Research (EER) Systems. Newport News, VA (1986 - 1987)

Hardware Design Engineer and Electronics Engineer - Provided engineering and select project management support for development of the following million/multimillion dollar project efforts:

- Baseline Cost Estimate (BCE) to be used in the procurement of the Combat Maneuver Training Complex - Instrumentation System (CMTC-IS)
- Operational and Maintenance (O&M) Support Plan at the National Training Center (NTC)
- Quality Assurance Surveillance Plan for the O&M Support Plan at the NTC; Configuration Management Plan for CMTC
- Requirements Operational Capabilities (ROC) Analysis for an instrumentation System at the U.S. Army Ranger School, Georgia;
- ROC Analysis for an Instrumentation System at Fort Chaffee, Arkansas;
- Suggested Statement of Work for the Digital Data Entry Device (DDED); and the Concept Formulation Package and Requirements Definition to Support interface and integration of Red Flag at the NTC:
- Phase II of a multi-million dollar GIS-based concept test demonstration. Performing as Assistant Test Director (ATD) - liaison between the Government Director Army Ranges and Targets (DART) personnel and EER Systems' personnel; and assumed the role of Test Director when required (1987).
- Suggested Statement of Work (SOW) for a \$1 million procurement of Multivehicle Player Units (MVPUs) at the NTC. Performing as Project Task Manager for a team of engineers, computer programmers, and technical support personnel in the development of a (1986).

Teledyne Hastings-Raydist, Hampton, VA (1982 - 1986)

Hardware Design Engineer - Designed and developed custom flow and vacuum measuring products; Project Manager for the production and completion of a \$.25 million flow measuring system; Electrical Engineer - Chiefly responsible for developing special products for customers.

Major Litigation & Testimony Related Efforts:

Southern Coalition for Social Justice (SCSJ), Durham, NC (2015 - 2016)

Provided expert testimony, deposition and expert report for the *City of Greensboro v The Guilford County Board of Elections* US District Court Case. Deposition and report included several district plans for the city council of Greensboro, NC, and analyzed certain characteristics, including population deviation, political subdivision splits, partisan performance, and incumbent effect analysis.

Provided expert testimony and report for the *Covington v North Carolina* federal redistricting court case. The testimony included analysis from *Dickson v Rucho* (also *NAACP v North Carolina*) of compactness on state legislative house and senate districts.

Provided expert testimony and report for the *Wright v North Carolina* federal redistricting court case. The testimony and report included analysis of population deviation, compactness, partisan impact and incumbent residences for county commission and school board plans.

Alabama Democratic Conference (ADC), Montgomery, AL (2015 - 2016)

Developed senate and house redistricting plans for the state of Alabama for the *ADC v Alabama* court case. Provided deposition on the creation of the plan. Also, generated a series of thematic maps depicting areas added from the previous plan to the enacted plan, displaying concentrations of African American voters that were added to the enacted plan.

Southern Coalition for Social Justice (SCSJ), Durham, NC (2014)

Provided expert testimony, report, and deposition for Federal redistricting court case, *Perez v. Perry* of Texas. The report included analysis of population extrapolations and projections for several submitted plans for select congressional and house districts.

North Carolina NAACP, Raleigh, NC (2012)

Provided expert opinions and analysis in an affidavit for the *NC NAACP v. State of North Carolina* federal redistricting case (later *Dickson v. Rucho*). The affidavit included examination of compactness measurements pertaining to the Congressional, State Senate, and State House “Benchmark” plans, several approved plans, and several legislative submitted plans. The report also contained county splits for the target districts.

Southern Coalition for Social Justice (SCSJ), Durham, NC (2011)

Provided expert opinions and analysis in an affidavit for the *Moore v. State of Tennessee* redistricting case. The affidavit included analysis of county splits comparing State Senate “Benchmark” plans, the approved plan, and several legislative submitted plans.

Texas NAACP, San Antonio, TX (2011)

Provided expert testimony, report, and deposition for federal redistricting court case *Perez v. Perry*. Testimony covered the evaluation of traditional redistricting criteria of the Congressional and House approved plans compared to several proposed or legislature submitted plans.

Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus, Baton Rouge, LA (2011)

Provided expert testimony in front of the Senate and Governmental Affairs committee. Testimony included the analysis of two redistricting plans comparing ideal population deviation, political subdivision splits (Parishes); and compactness ratios. Also, developed a redistricting plan and testified in front of the House and Governmental Affairs in support of a new majority minority (African American) congressional district in Louisiana.

Morrison & Foerster LLP, Los Angeles, CA (2004)

Provided expert report on several state senate plans for the *Metts v. Murphy* Rhode Island court case. Report contained analysis of communities of interest areas that were not included in the state’s enacted plan of the only majority minority district.

Congressional Black Caucus Institute, Redistricting Project, Washington D.C. (2002)

Performed as the redistricting mapping expert for Congressman Hilliard in a consolidated U.S. District redistricting court case in Alabama (*Montiel v. Davis* and *Barnett v. Alabama*). Developed the submitted plan and provided advice to legal counsel for the court case.

Council of Black Elected Democrats (COBED) New York State, New York, NY (2002)

Performed as one of the redistricting experts (*Allen v. Pataki/Rodriguez v. Pataki*) by developing several New York State congressional district plans that were presented by COBED.

Miami-Dade, Florida (1995 - 1996)

Provided expert technical redistricting support as one half of the Expert Master’s Team. Developed over 50 commissioner district plans for the county as well as the final adopted plan for the county.

NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund (LDEF), New York, NY (1993)

Provided expert technical support for the *Shaw v. Reno* Supreme Court case (via Norfolk State University). Analyzed and compared various compactness ratios for congressional districts throughout the U.S. The results were compared to the 12th congressional district of North Carolina. Also, developed several alternative congressional district plans.

Major GIS/Demographic/Redistricting Training and Presentations:

Congressional Black Caucus Institute, Washington, DC (2016)

Presented at the annual legislative conference in Tunica, MS. Presented the election demographic analysis and for the 2016 presidential and Senate elections. Panel included Congressman Cedrick Richmond (LA), Congressman Sanford Bishop (GA), and Professor Spencer Overton.

Coalition of Black Trade Unionists (CBTU), Chicago, IL (2015)

Presented at the annual CBTU conference on the election panel that included Congressman Al Green (TX) and Congressman Bobby Rush (IL).

Nobel Women's Initiative, Washington, DC (2015)

Presented on a panel at the annual conference in San Diego, CA on the upcoming 2020 census.

Tennessee NAACP, Nashville, TN (2011)

Provided redistricting training session on the mapping and demographic aspects of Redistricting.

Congressional Black Caucus Institute, Washington, DC (2002 - 2012, 2014)

Presented "The Demographics of Campaigns" twelve times at the institute's annual political campaign "Boot Camp." The presentation covers how to locate and utilize demographic data for political campaigns.

Congressional Black Caucus Foundation (CBCF), Washington, DC (2011)

Presented as one of the panelist at the "Judge A. Leon Higginbotham" Braintrust at the CBC Annual Legislative Conference. The panel was moderated by Congressman Mel Watt.

The Advancement Project, Washington, DC (2011)

Trained staff GIS person on Maptitude for Redistricting as well as on redistricting scenarios.

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Baltimore, MA (2011)

Provided training session on "Redistricting Mapping Overview" at the organization's national redistricting training seminar for state and local chapters.

Congressional Black Caucus Institute, Washington, DC (2010)

Presented at the annual CBC Institute conference in Tunica, MS (The panel included Congressman John Lewis and Congressman Jim Clyburn). Outlined two critical issues that would surface in the 2010 round of redistricting: 1) Prison-based Gerrymander; and 2) The Use of Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP).

Community Census and Redistricting Institute (CCRI), Durham, NC (2010)

Developed, managed, and provided hands-on training for the Political Cartographer's side of a week-long intensive "redistricting expert" preparation workshop. The workshop trained 18 political cartographers on all aspects of plan development.

North Carolina University's Center for Civil Rights, Chapel Hill, NC (2010)

Provided presentation on "Redistricting Laws & GIS" at the *Unfinished Work* conference. The presentation outlined the evolution of major redistricting laws and GIS and their impact on minority representation.

NAACP Legal Defense Fund AIRLIE Conference, AIRLIE, VA (2010)

Provided training using hands-on "paper" redistricting scenario to voting rights advocates on developing a plan without the use of computers.

Young Elected Officials, Los Angeles, CA (2010)

Provided training using hands-on "paper" redistricting scenario to young legislators on developing a plan without the use of computers.

Young Elected Officials, Alexandria, VA (2010)

Provided overview training on the major aspects of redistricting to young legislators.

North Carolina University's Center for Civil Rights, Chapel Hill, NC (2006)

Provided presentation on "Congressional Elections Won by African Americans Race & Ethnicity District Perspective (1960 - 2004)" at the *Who Draws the Lines? The Consequences of Redistricting Reform for Minority Voters* conference.

Howard University - Continuing Education - HBCU GIS Workshop, Washington, DC (2002)

Provided presentation on redistricting and the use Maptitude for Redistricting to faculty members of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

Norfolk State University Redistricting Project Training Workshops (1991 - 1998)

Provided redistricting training to the following:

- Alabama State University, Montgomery, Alabama
- Albany State University, Albany, Georgia
- Florida A & M, Tallahassee, Florida
- National Conference of Black Political Scientists, Atlanta, Georgia Conference
- Norfolk State University, Norfolk, Virginia
- North Carolina A & T State University, Greensboro, North Carolina
- North Carolina Central University, Durham, North Carolina
- Southern University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
- Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts

Major GIS/Redistricting/Voter Data Software Experience:

- ArcGIS - GIS Software - Primary GIS Software after 2012 ([ESRI](#))
- ArcGIS Online – Including Story Maps & Web Application Builder ([ArcGIS.com](#))
- GRASS GIS – Open Source GIS ([OSGeo](#))
- Maptitude for Redistricting - Primary Redistricting software, since 2001 ([Caliper](#))
- ESRI Redistricting Online - Beta Tester ([ESRI](#))
- Public Mapping Project - Advisory Board Member ([an open source online software](#))
- GIS Plus (the precursor to Maptitude Software in the mid to late 1990s) - User ([Caliper](#))
- ReapS Redistricting and Reapportionment System - Redistricting software, 1990s ([LogiSYS](#))
- Voter Activation Network System [NPGVAN](#)
- Voterlistonline.com Aristotle software [Aristotle](#)
- VBASE voter database software

GIS Skillset/Coding Languages:

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| • Geocoding Data | • Image Classification |
| • Linear Referencing | • ArcGIS Web Services |
| • Digital Cardinality | • pdAdmin |
| • Spatial Statistics | • Python |
| • Suitability Analysis | • PostgreSQL |

ESRI Certificates:

- Learning ArcGIS Desktop (for ArcGIS 10) - 24 hrs training
- Turning Data into Information Using ArcGIS 10 - 18 hrs training
- Basics of Raster Data (for ArcGIS 10) - 3 hrs training
- Using Raster Data for Site Selection (for ArcGIS 10) - 3 hrs training
- Working with Geodatabase Domains and Subtypes in ArcGIS - 3 hrs training
- Network Analysis Using ArcGIS - 3 hrs training

Publications:

Books

- *An Introduction to the Presidential Trend*, Statistical Press, March 2015
- *The Presidential Trend*, Statistical Press, December 2013
- *The Democratic Trend Phenomenon*, MediaChannel LLC, October 2008.
- *A Step by Step Guide to Using Census 2000 Data*, MediaChannel LLC, March 2004. Also Included, a companion CD-ROM (sold through various Census related workshops and training sessions and used in a political science course).

Manuals

- *A Beginner's Guide To Using Census 2000 Data*, November 2002 (Co-authored- developed for the U.S. Census Bureau's Census Information Centers)

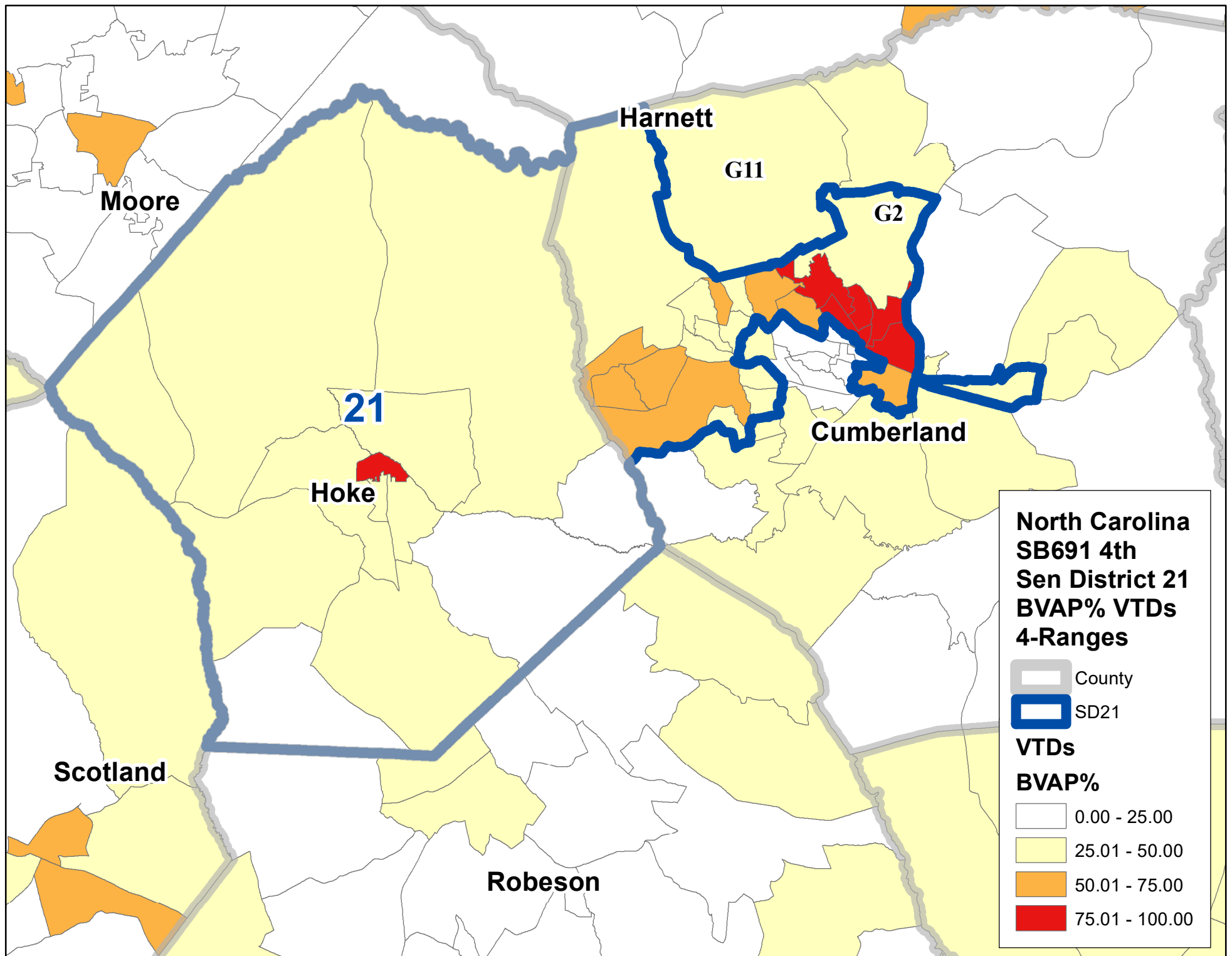
Articles

- "Precision Voter Targeting: GIS Maps Out a Strategy," Geo Info Systems, November 1996 (Co-authored one of the first articles published on using modern day GIS for voter targeting).

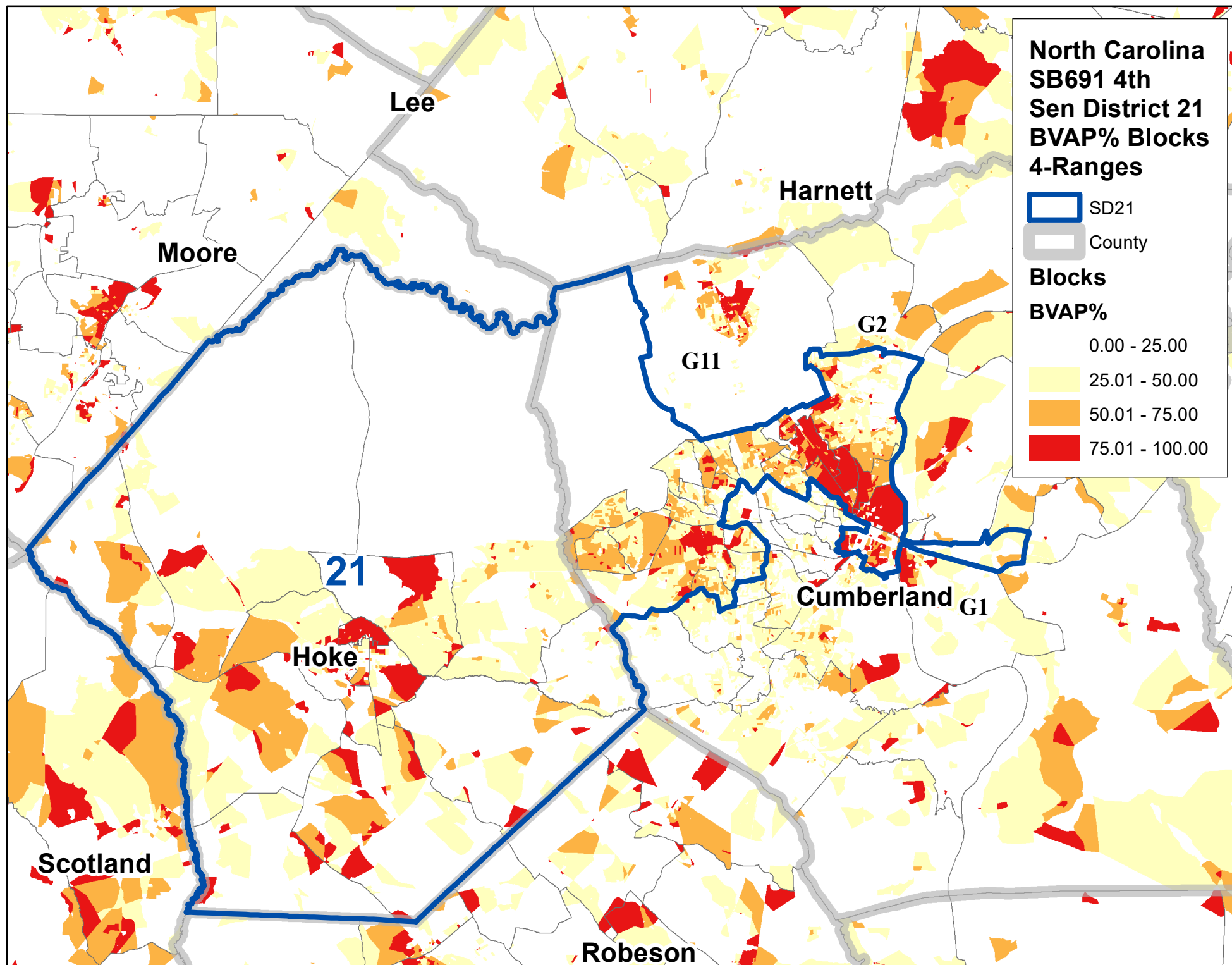
Current Advisory Boards

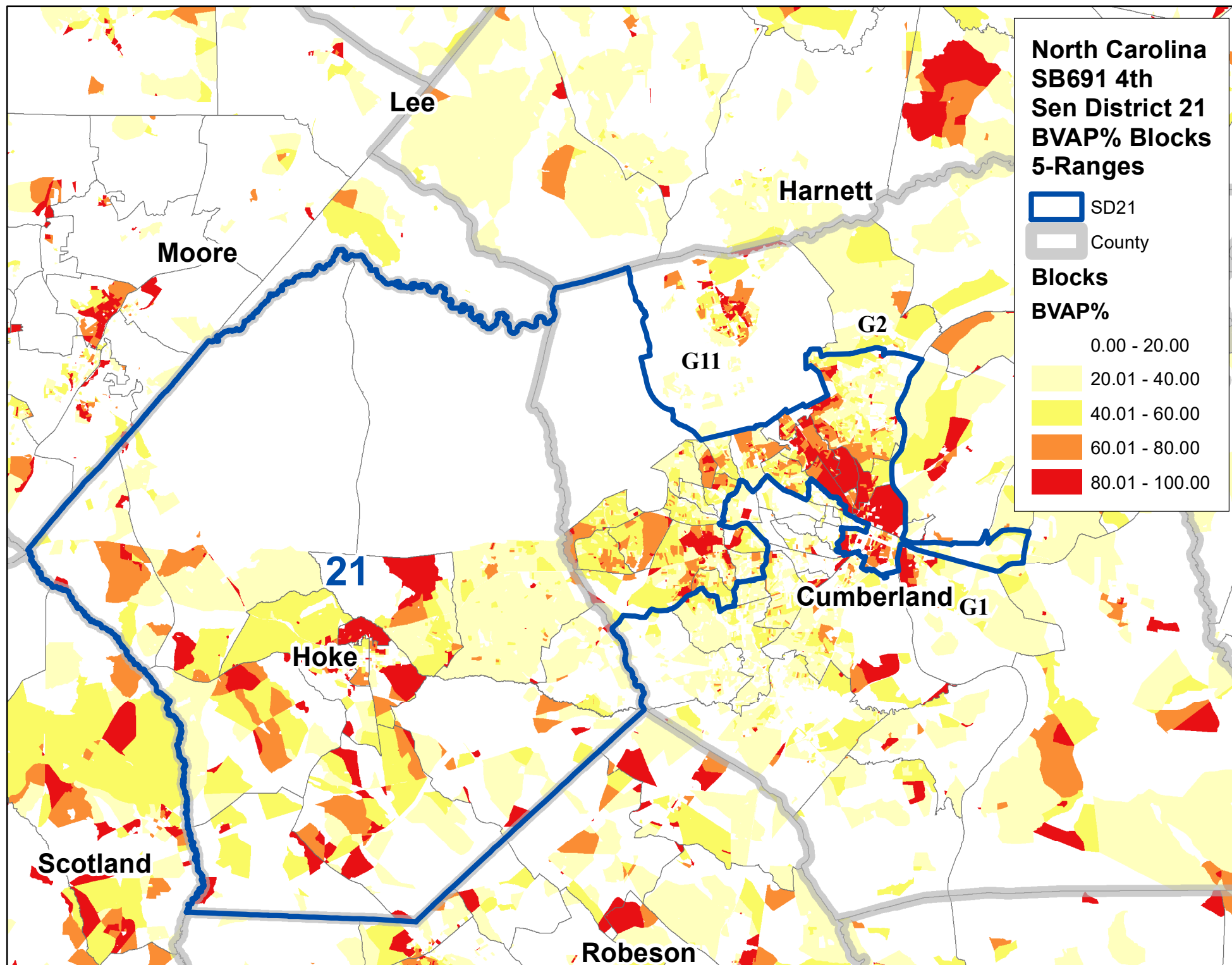
- Virginia Tech Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE) [Advisory Board](#) (Term: 2016 to 2020)
- First Baptist Church of Hampton Trustee Board (Term: 2015 to 2019)

Appendix 2

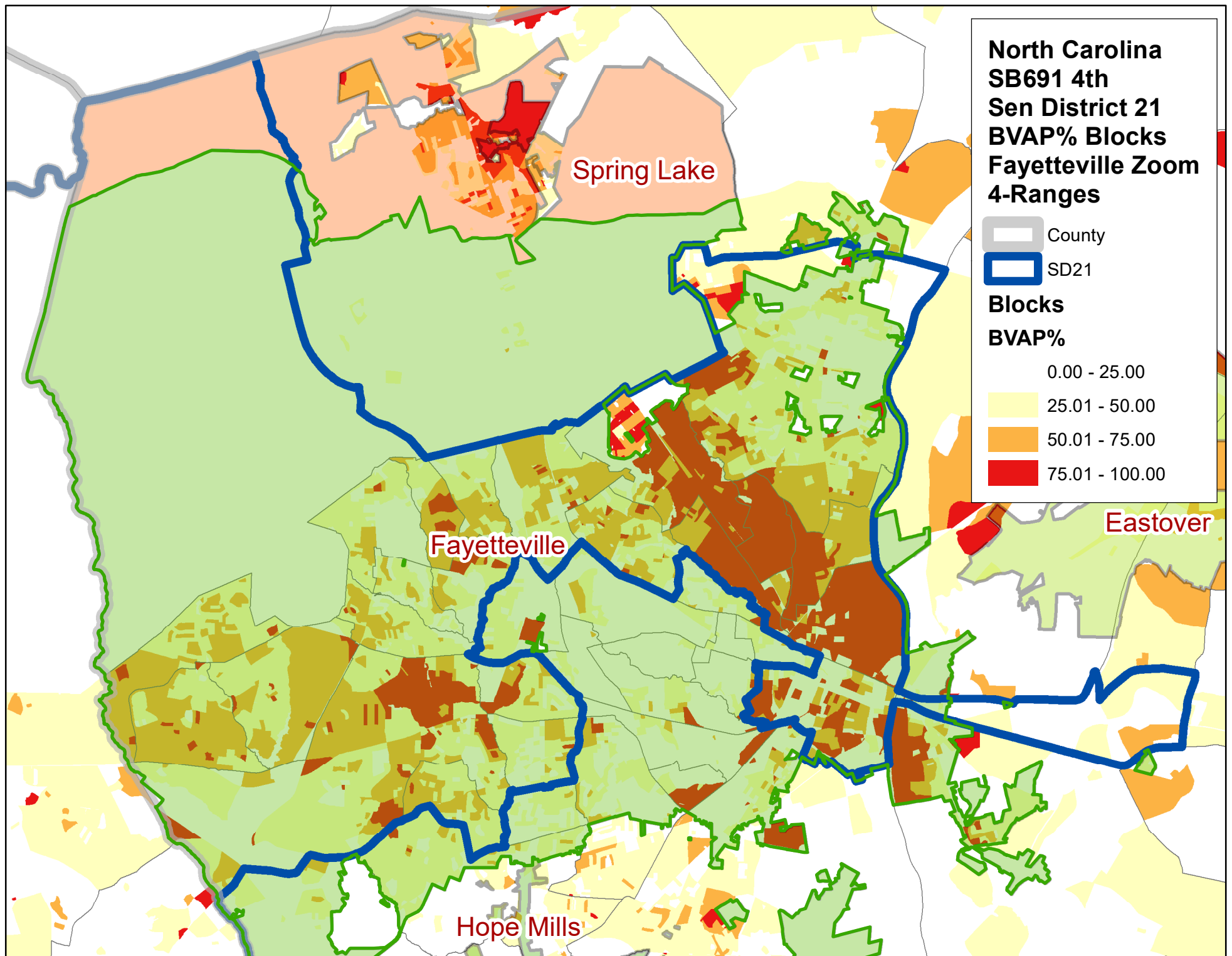


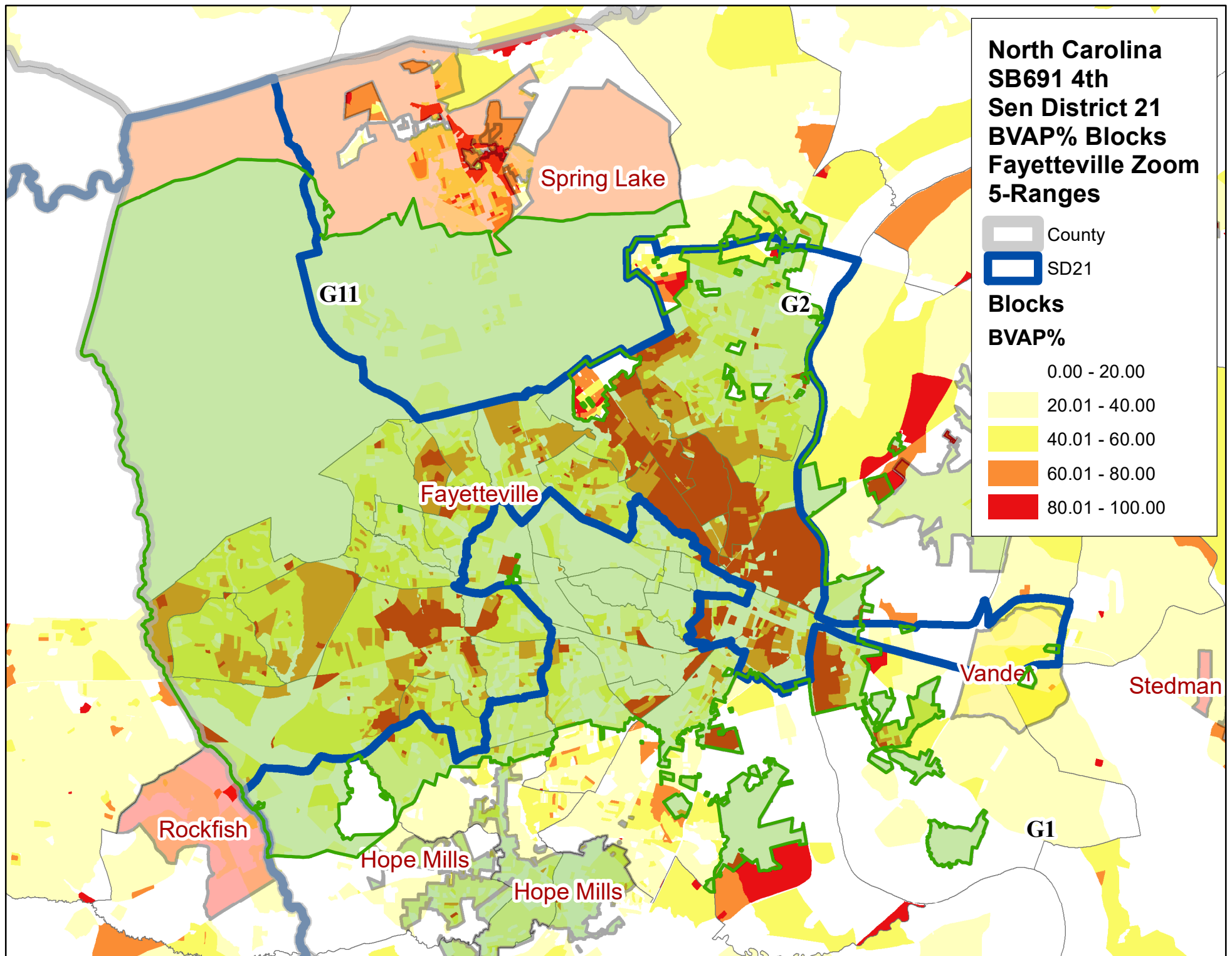
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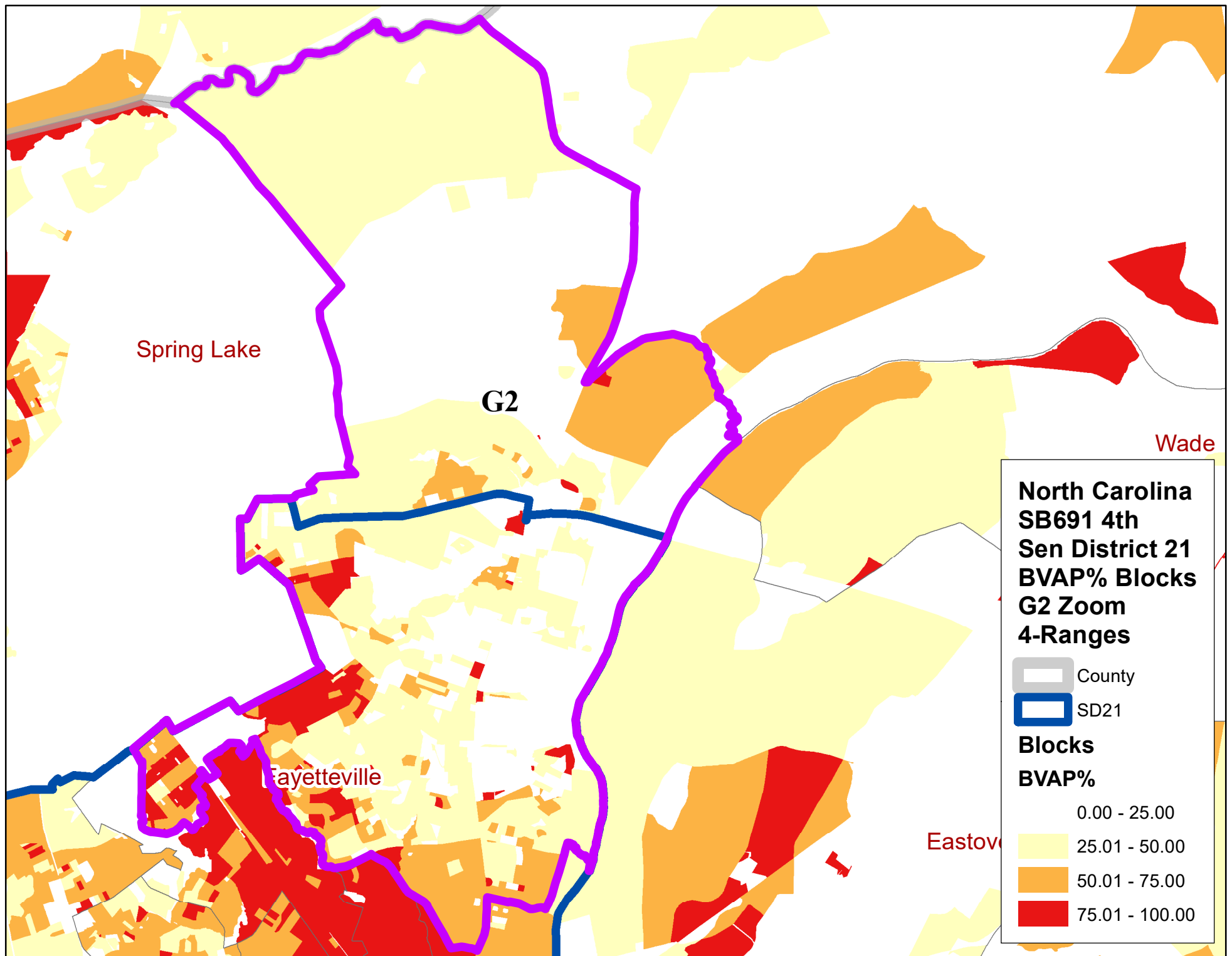


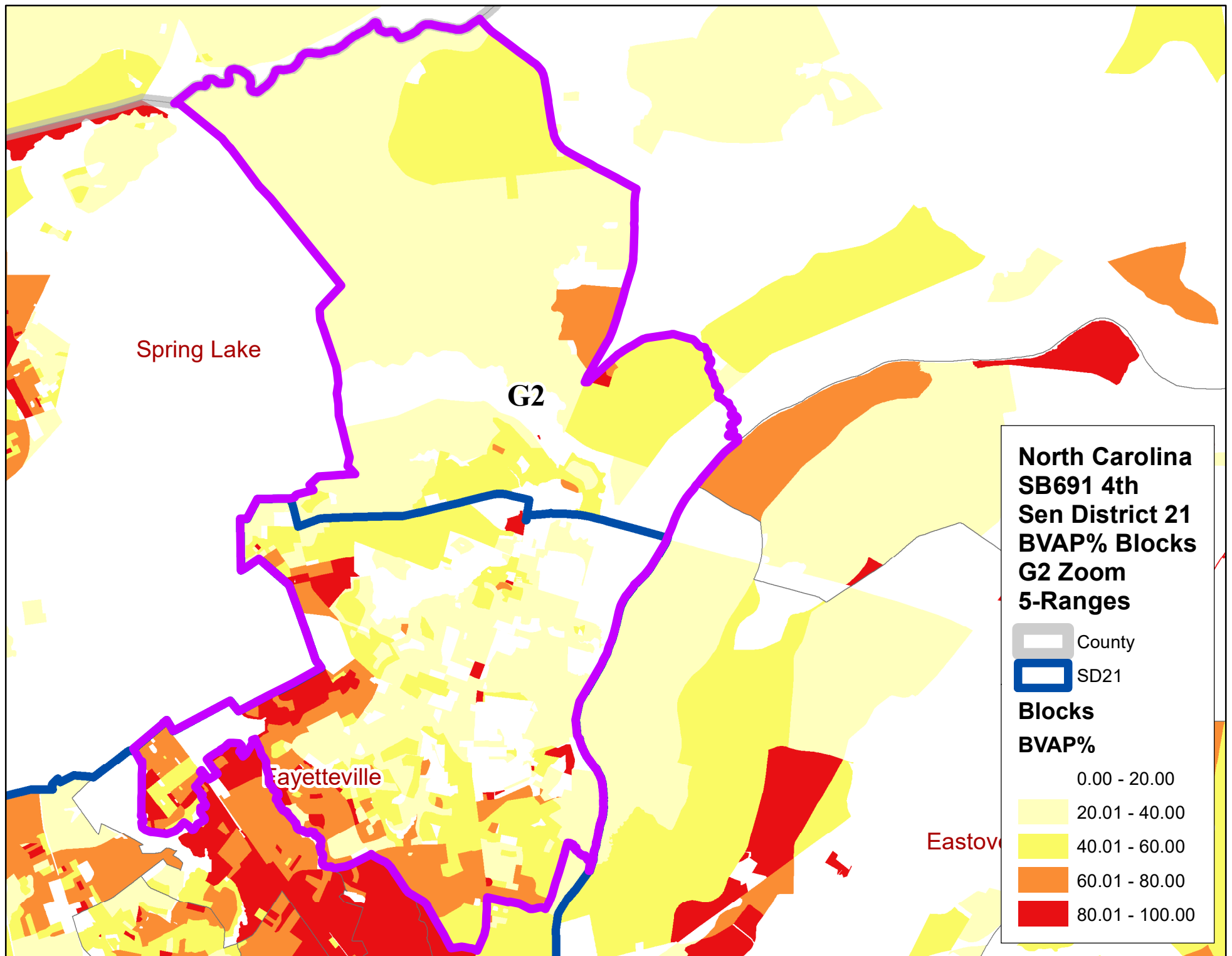
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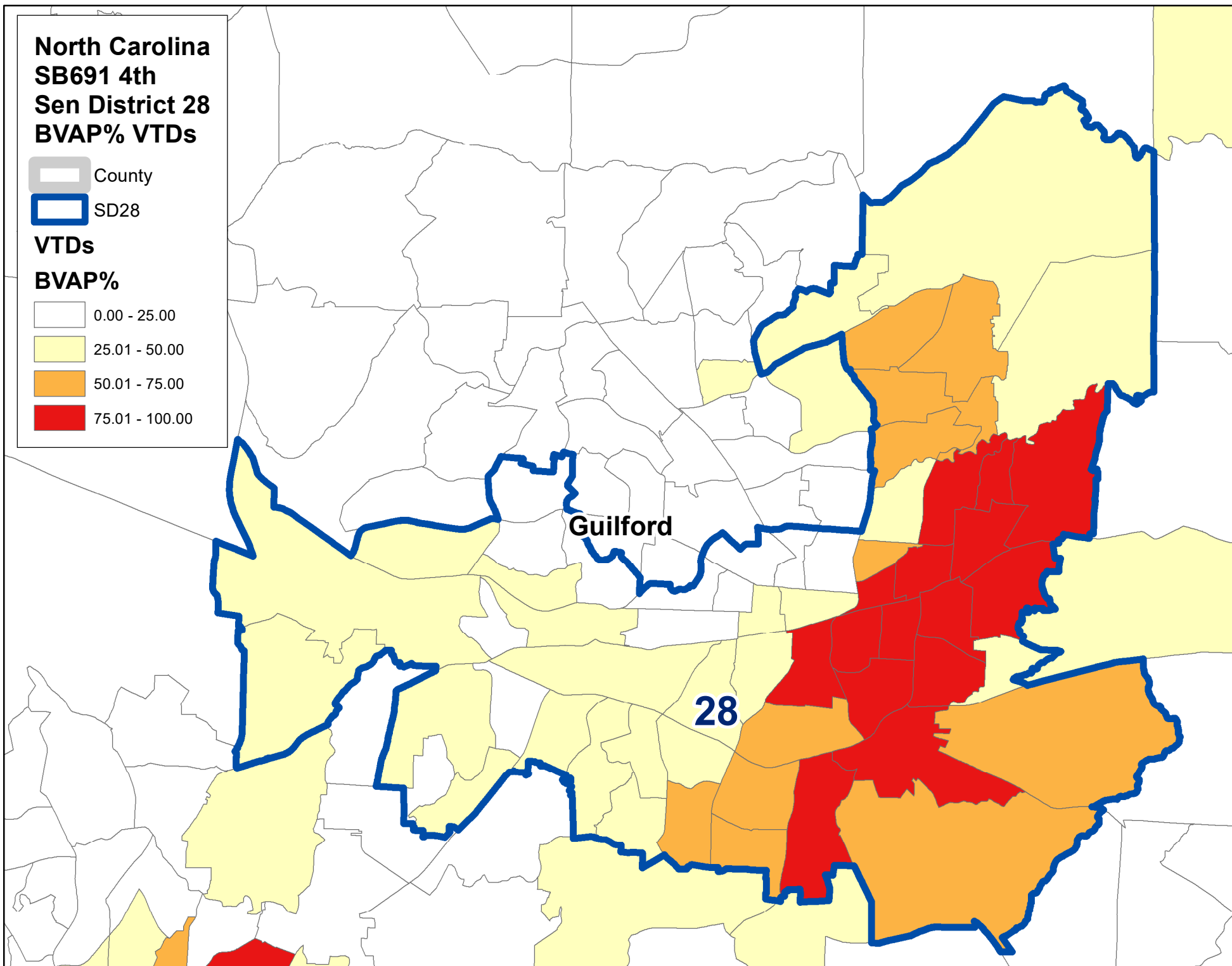


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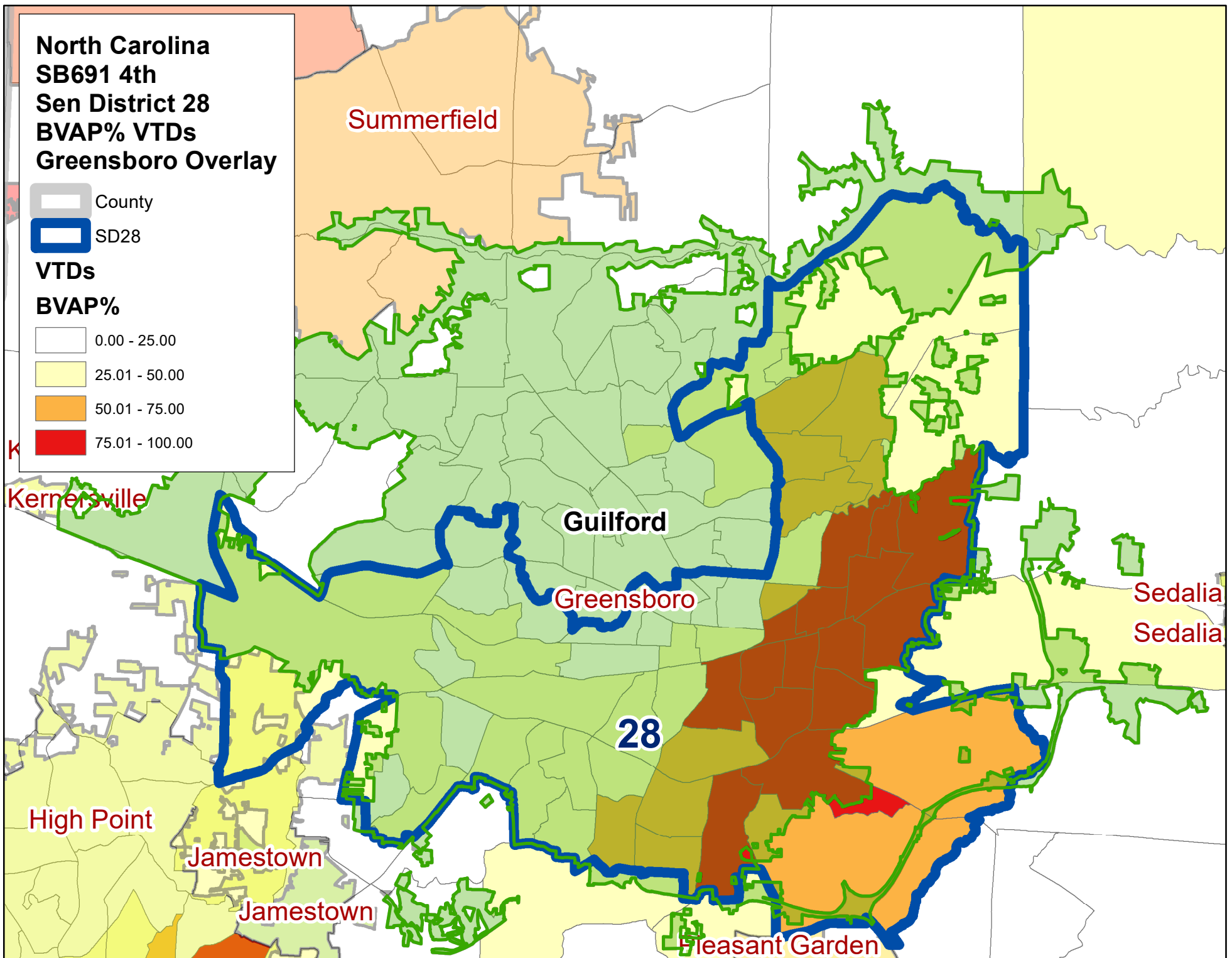




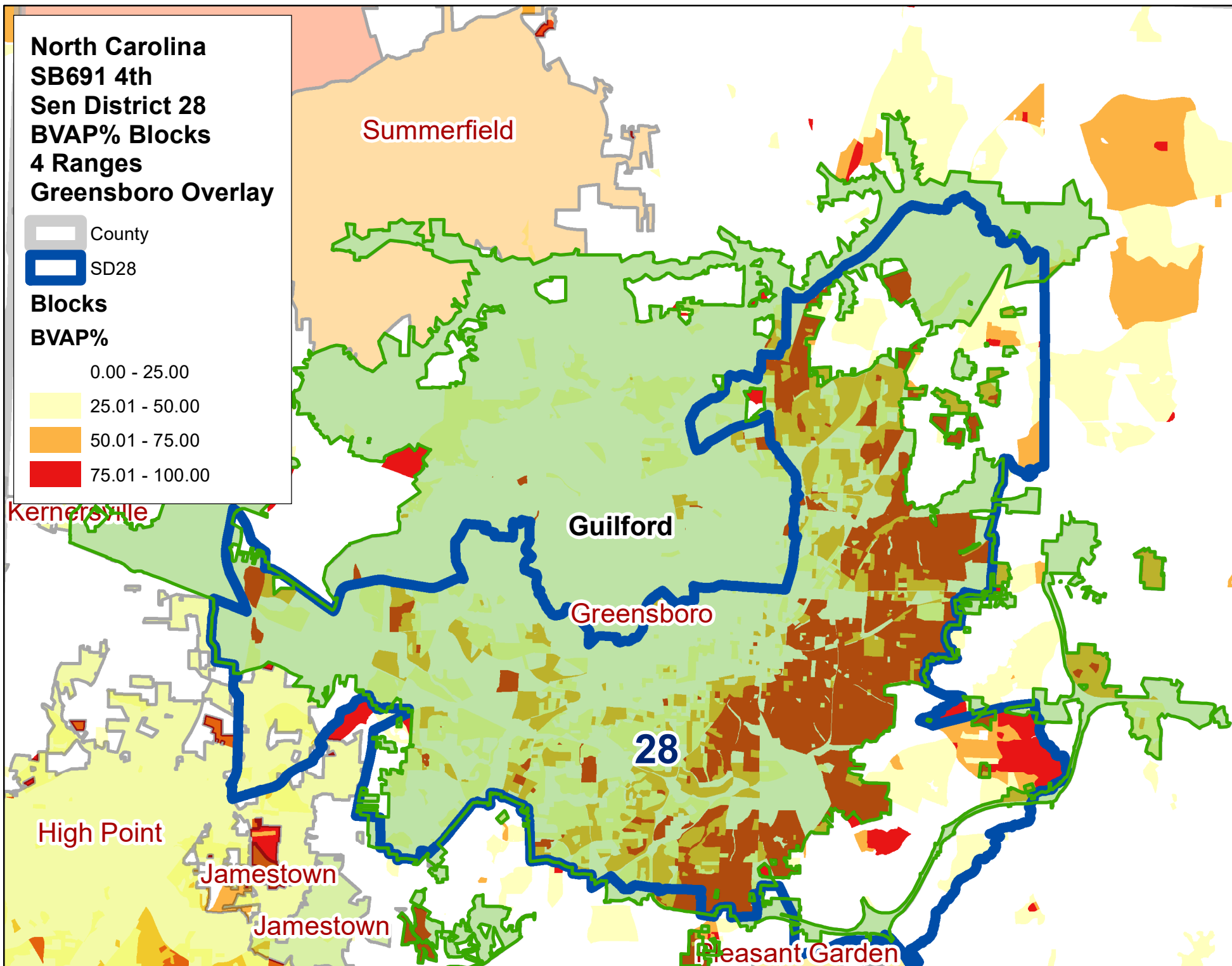
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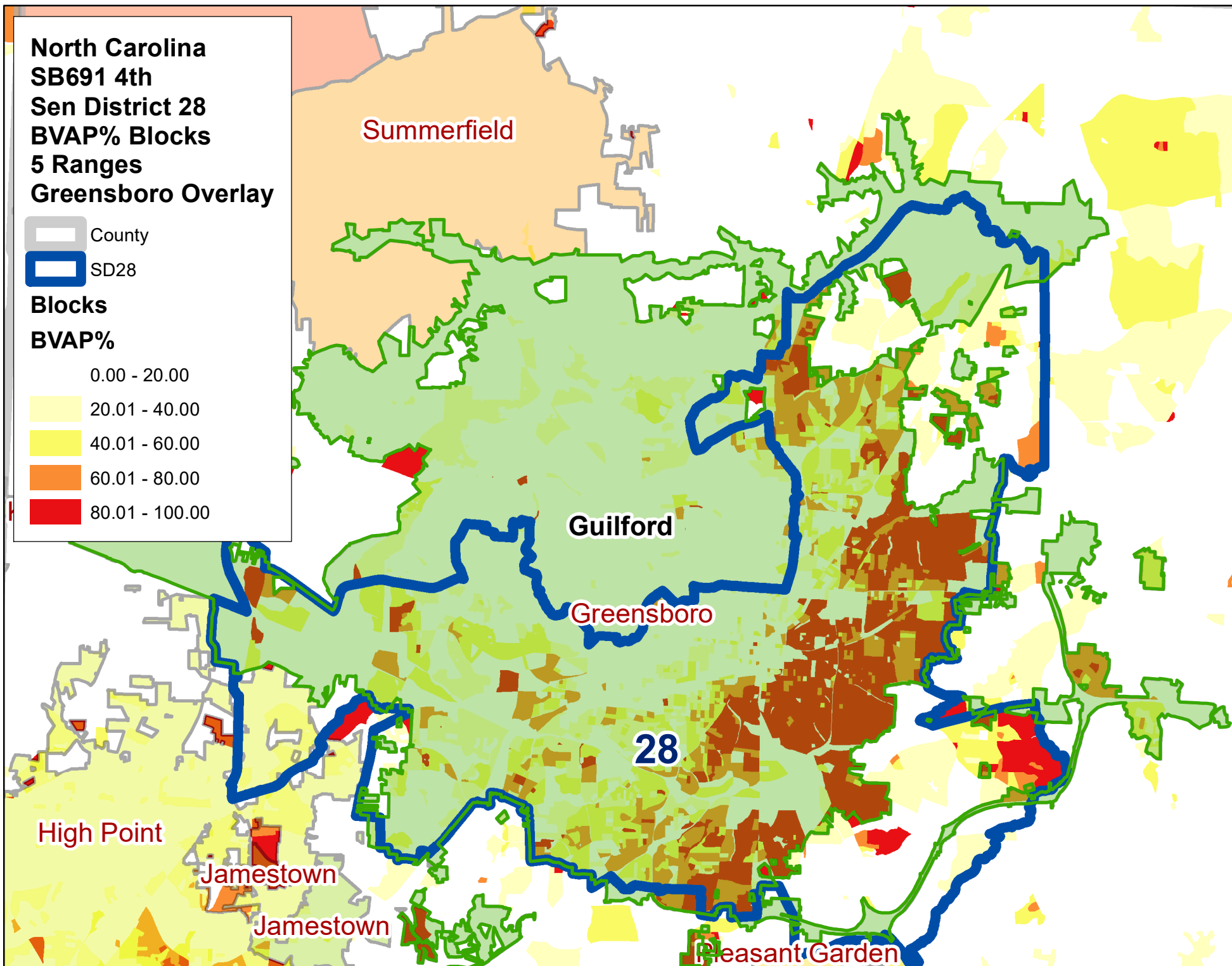


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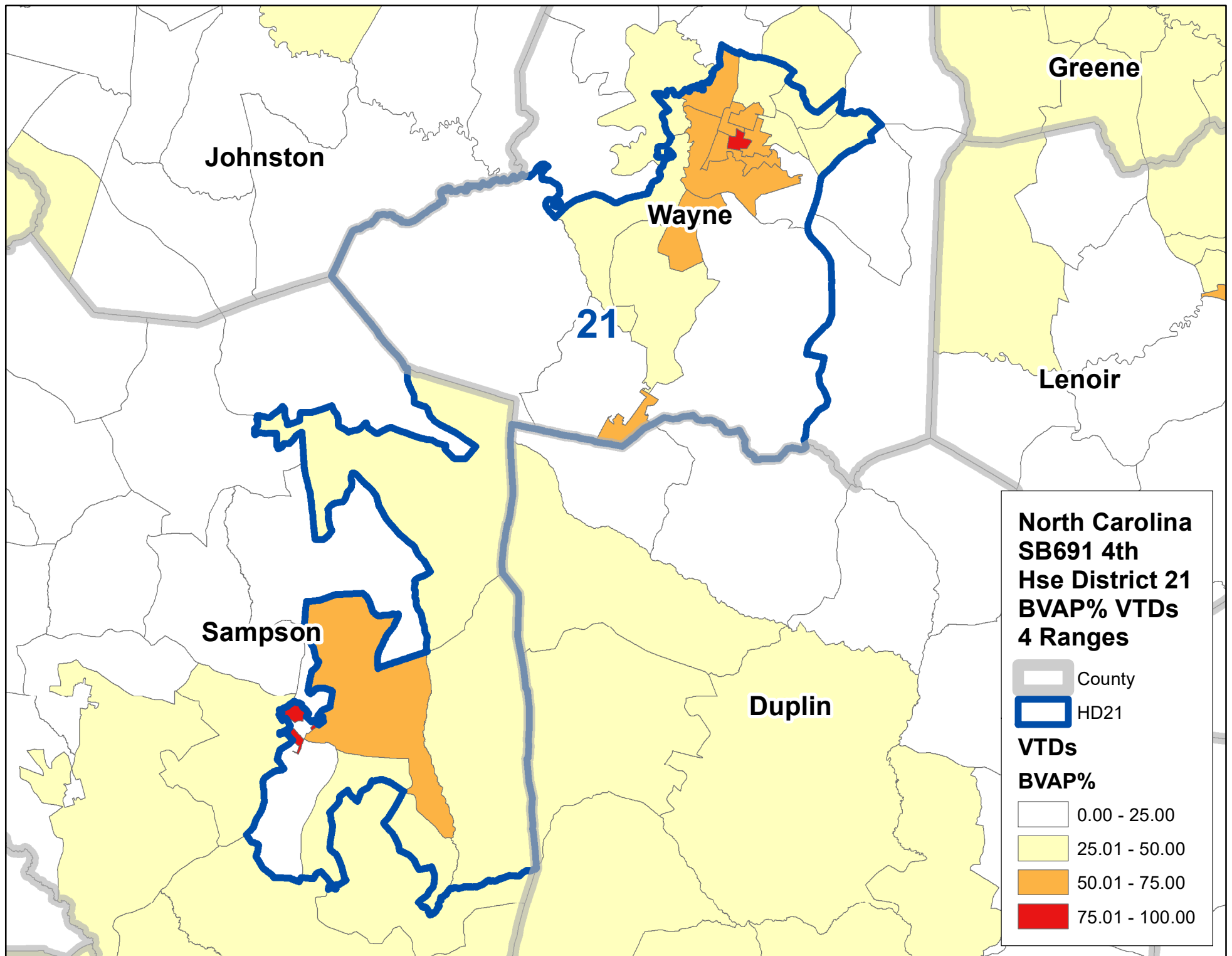


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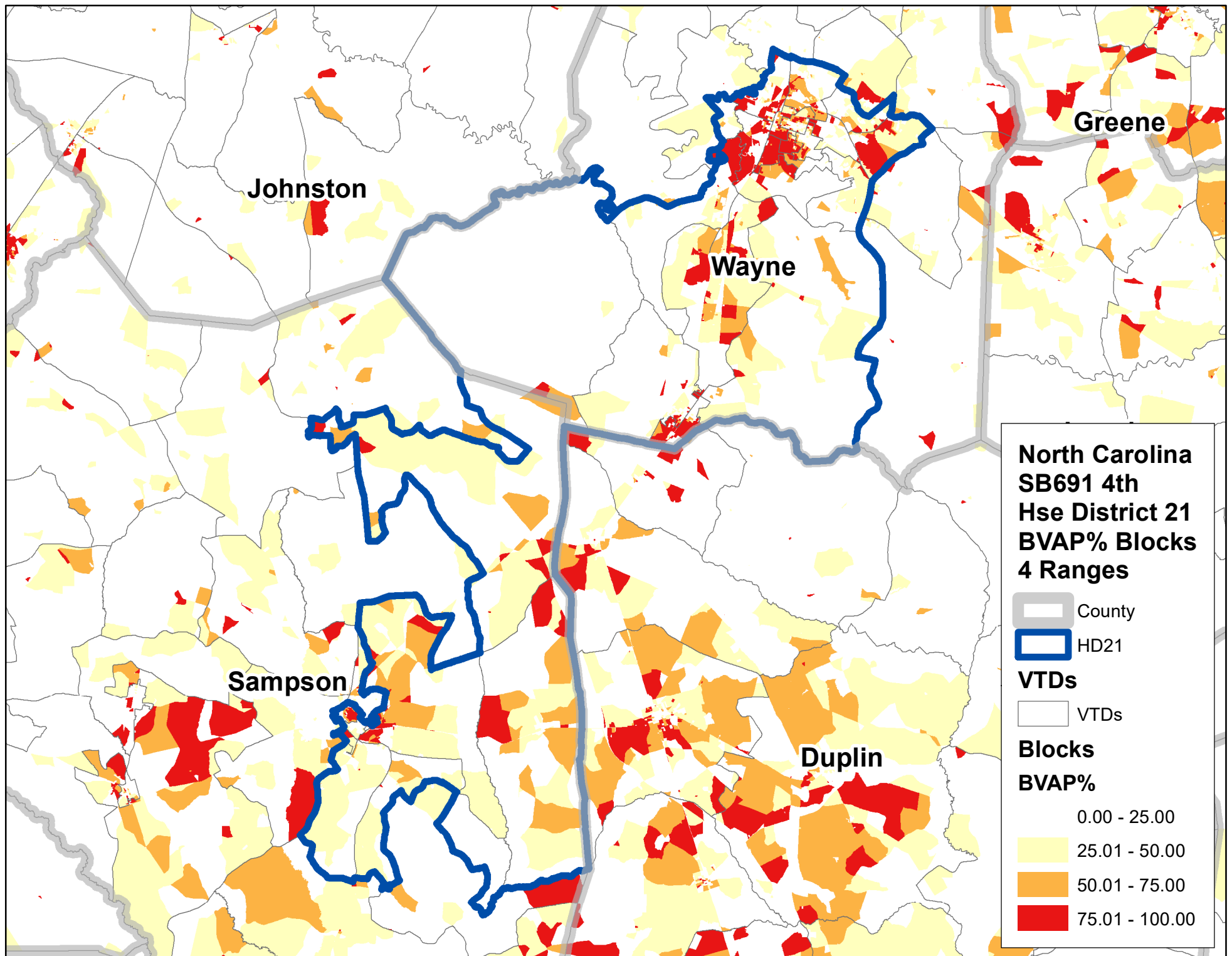


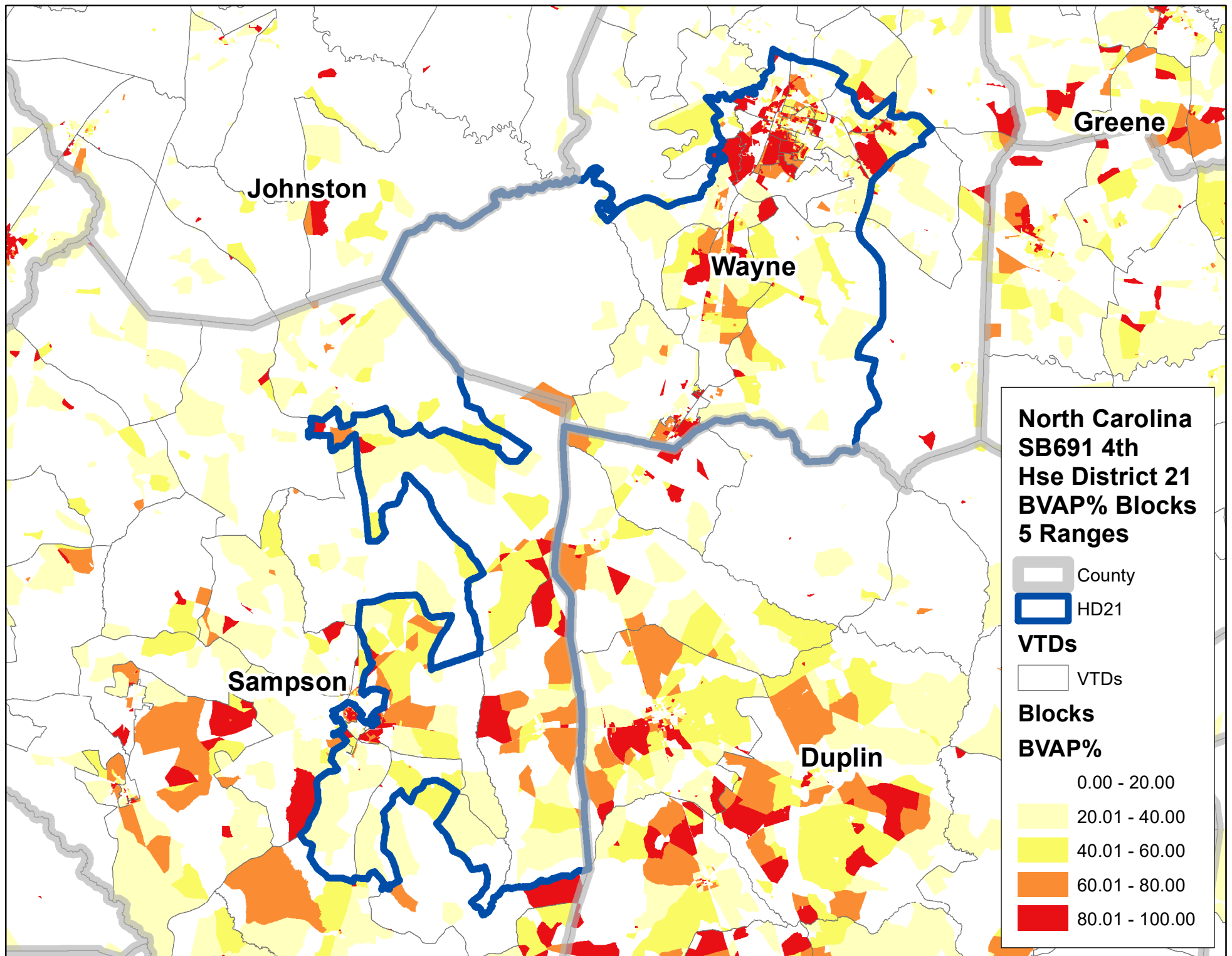


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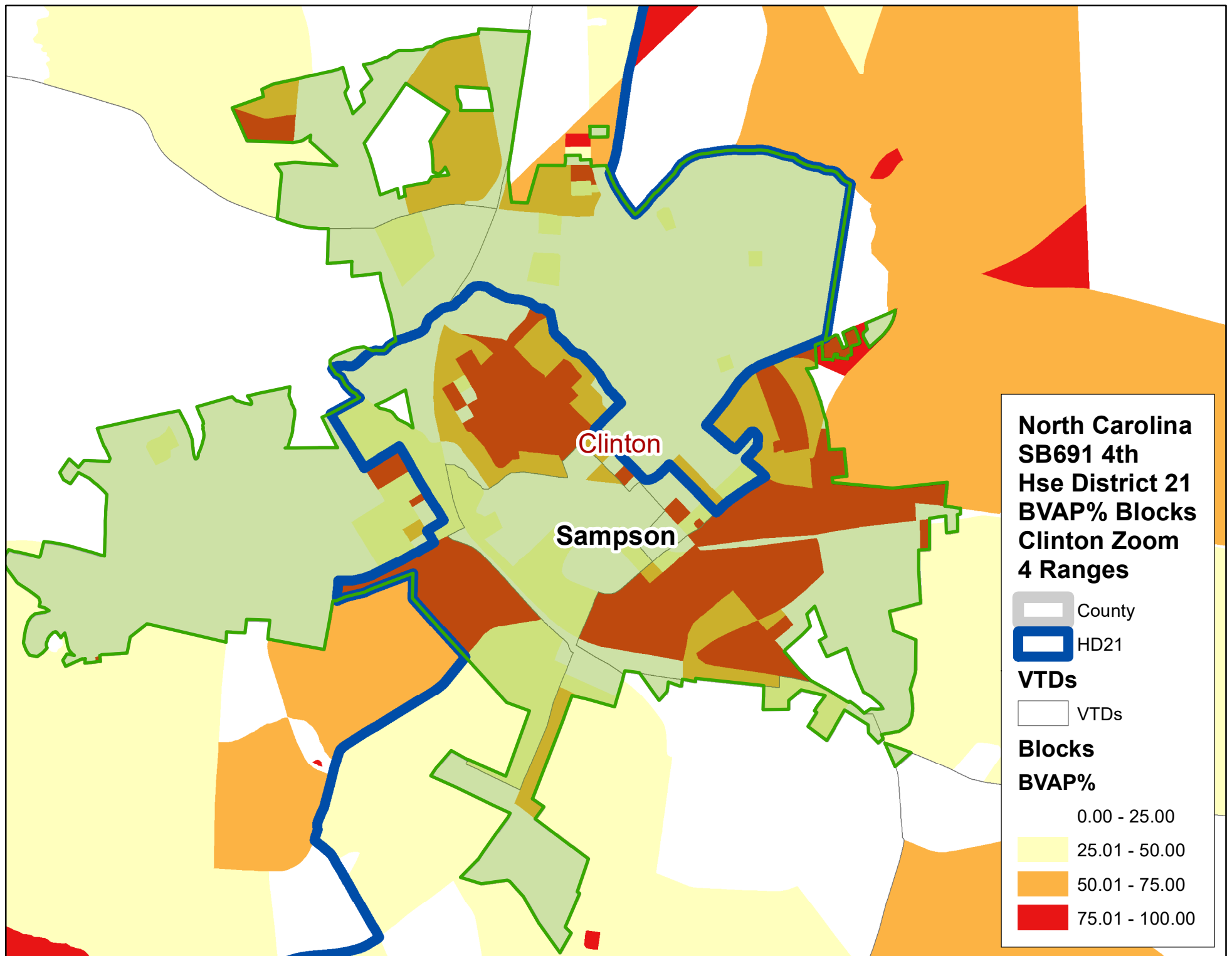


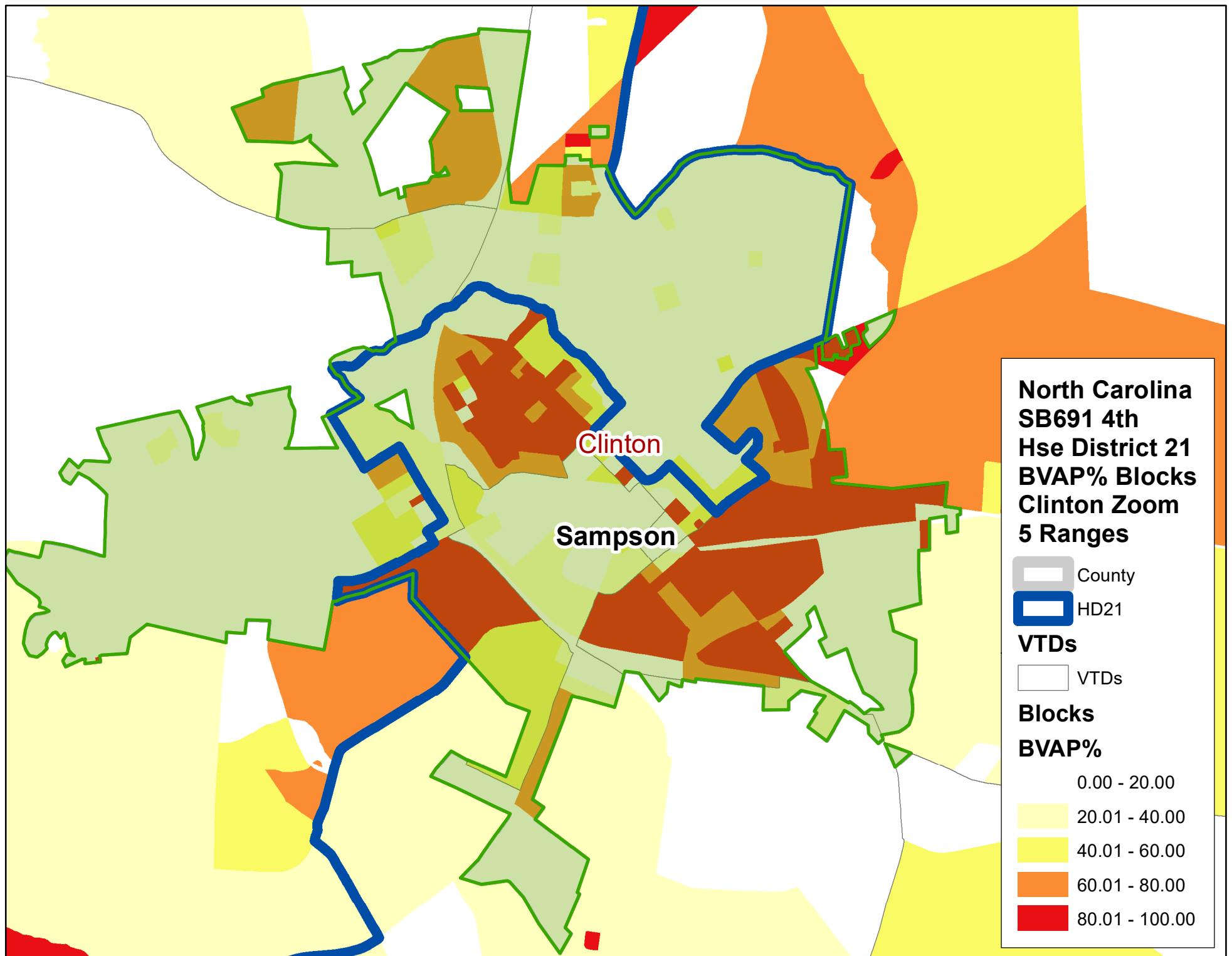
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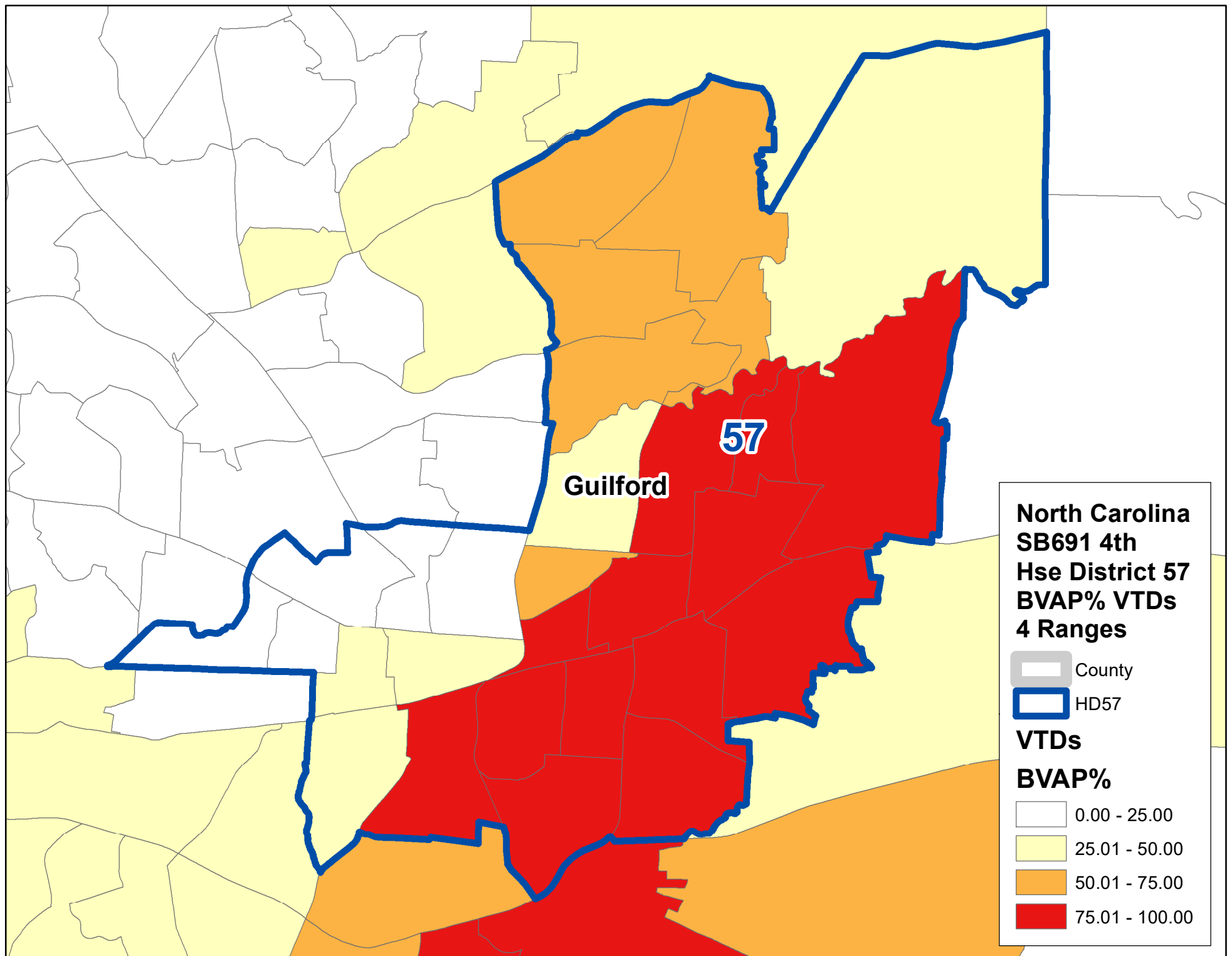


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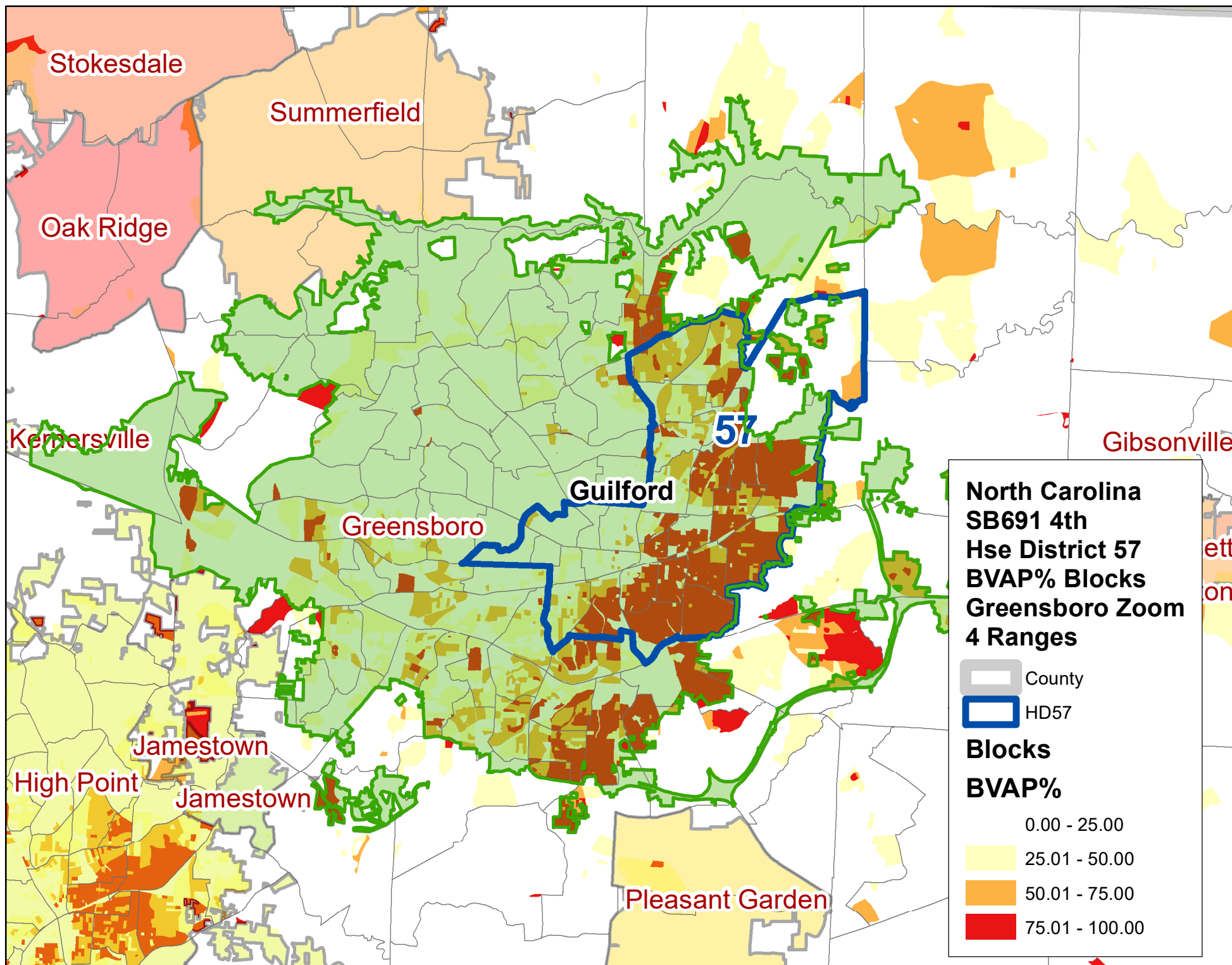




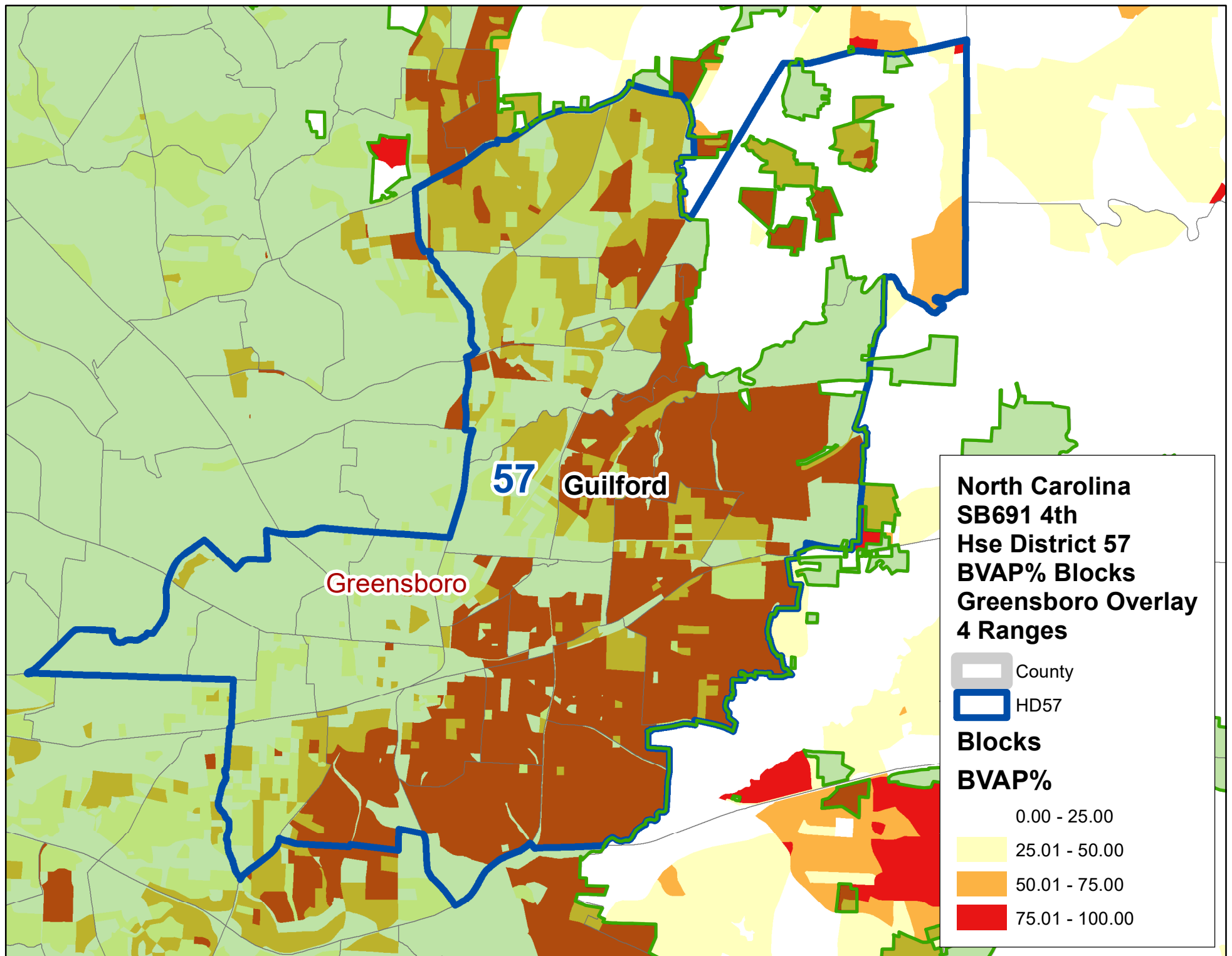
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Appendix 13



Appendix 14



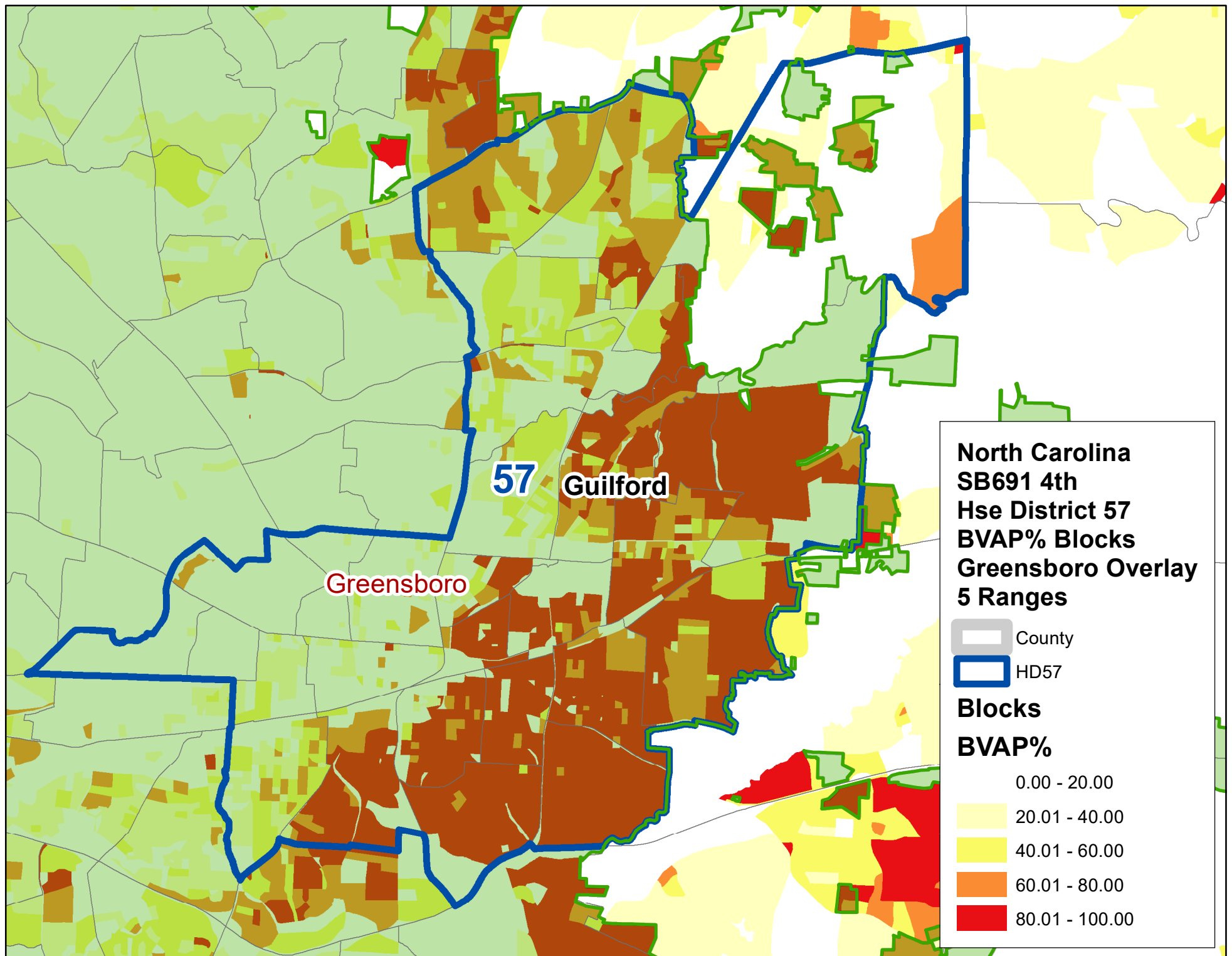


Exhibit 7

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA
No. 1:15-cv-399**

SANDRA LITTLE COVINGTON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, et al.,

Defendants.

**DECLARATION OF
WILLIAM R. GILKESON, JR.**

I, William R. Gilkeson, Jr., am over the age of 18 and fully competent to make this declaration. Under penalty of perjury, I state the following:

1. I received a B.A. in political science from Southwestern at Memphis (now Rhodes College) in Memphis Tennessee in 1969 and a J.D. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Law in 1985.
2. After college, I worked for 13 years as an editor and reporter for *The Chattanooga Times*, the *Winston-Salem Journal*, and the *Durham Morning Herald*.
3. After completing law school, I was employed as a staff attorney in the Research Division of the North Carolina General Assembly. I worked there for 25 years until I retired in 2010. In that role, I provided legislative analysis and drafting for all legislators, regardless of party. My specialties included election law and redistricting, and for years I was assigned to staff the elections and redistricting committees in the legislature. In that role, from the 1990s onward, I drew numerous district maps for legislators, for local, state legislative and congressional districts. During my tenure in the Research Division, I was also responsible for analyzing proposed redistricting maps for compliance with state and federal law.
4. From the 1990s to 2010, one of my redistricting duties was to work with the U.S. Census Bureau to align North Carolina's precinct boundaries with Census block boundaries (census blocks being the most basic geographic unit utilized by the Census Bureau and in the redistricting process). This would allow the General Assembly to have Census data by precinct (or also known as Voter Tabulation District or Voting District, "VTD"—in North Carolina, VTDs and precincts are largely interchangeable terms) and to avoid splitting precincts in drawing districts.

This effort took many years, reflecting the General Assembly's commitment to avoid splitting precincts. That work also contributed to my familiarity with the role precincts in North Carolina and in redistricting.

5. After my retirement from the North Carolina General Assembly, I joined the law firm Bailey & Dixon LLP in an "of counsel" role. My work at the firm has included drawing and analyzing redistricting plans, and I have been employed by the City of High Point, the Legislative Black Caucus, and North Carolina Common Cause.
6. The Plaintiffs in this lawsuit hired me to help them produce alternative maps, and to analyze maps proposed by Rep. David Lewis and Sen. Ralph Hise and drawn by Dr. Thomas Hofeller.

The Plaintiffs' Alternative Maps

7. In consultation with the Plaintiffs and based on my decades of experience drawing redistricting maps, I developed a set of criteria that I used in drawing the Plaintiffs' maps. In drawing districts within the county clusters mandated by the Whole County Provision ("WCP"), I prioritized the elimination of the racial gerrymandering present in the 2011 districts—the very reason that a redrawing is required. I also paid attention to maintenance of the equal ability of minority voters to elect candidates of their choice, compliance with the state constitution, partisan balance, compactness, contiguity, integrity of precincts and political subdivisions, and communities of interest.
8. The alternative House map and Senate map I drew for the Plaintiffs are attached as Exhibits A and B, respectively.¹ In drawing the districts in Exhibits A and B, I used the same county clusters used by Dr. Hofeller—all parties are in agreement that these clusters represent maximum compliance with the Whole County Provision clustering requirement. I further restricted myself as follows: Because mid-decade redistricting is constitutionally prohibited in North Carolina, I focused only on fixing the 28 districts identified as unconstitutional, and the districts surrounding them, and districts necessarily affected by maximal compliance with the Whole County Provision (i.e., the new county groupings utilized by Dr. Hofeller). Thus, in county groupings not required to be redrawn by the WCP, or in counties that contained multiple districts wholly within the county, I redrew

¹ Senator Dan Blue introduced the *Covington* Plaintiffs' alternative Senate plan, and that is why the data on this plan produced from the General Assembly's software is labeled "STV-1-Blue- Fair, Legal and Competitive."

only those districts that were held unconstitutional as racial gerrymanders by the *Covington* court and districts adjacent to those unconstitutional districts.

9. These efforts/restrictions were necessary because absent a court order invalidating districts, the North Carolina Constitution does not allow districts to be redrawn mid-decade. Thus, I very carefully limited the changes that I made in the map to correcting the court-identified flaws, but made no changes beyond that.
10. Included with Exhibits A and B are statistics reporting the number of divided precincts and towns in the districts, the compactness of the districts and certain election results for the districts. These are the same statistics Lewis and Hise reported for the enacted maps. In addition to these statistics, I have compiled and provided for both Exhibits A and B the Black Percentage of Voting Age Population (BVAP), the Black Percentage of Voter Registration (BVR) in 2010 and 2017, and the 2010 Black Percentage of Democratic Voter Registration (BDVR). These statistics are reported in Exhibits C and D. This additional racial data for the enacted plans is included in Exhibits E and F.

Comparing the 2017 Plans to Plaintiffs' Plans

11. Counsel for the Plaintiffs in this action also asked me to compare the Plaintiffs' alternative plans with the 2017 enacted plans using a number of different metrics, including: compactness, split VTDs, and split municipalities. In addition to providing these metrics for each map, for certain urban counties, I also produced an aggregate chart comparing all of the metrics on each plan, to better help this court understand how the plans compare across the board.

- Compactness

12. I used two of the most commonly used mathematical measures of compactness, the Reock and Polsby-Popper scores. I produced the scores for each district and plan using Maptitude, the commercially available redistricting software that I utilize. It is my understanding that Dr. Hofeller uses the same software. For each of the Plaintiffs' and Enacted Plans, I report the scores of the districts with the best compactness score (maximum), the worst compactness score (minimum), and the average district score across the entire plan (mean). With both measures, the scores are always between 0 and 1, with 1 being the most compact. Thus, scores that are closer to 1 are more compact than those closer to 0. Those results are as follows:

Reock Comparison Chart – Plaintiffs’ and 2017 Enacted Plans			
Plan	Reock Minimum	Reock Maximum	Reock Mean
Plaintiffs’ Senate	0.23	0.62	0.42
2017 Enacted Senate	0.19	0.62	0.42
Plaintiffs’ House	0.20	0.70	0.42
2017 Enacted House	0.20	0.70	0.41

Polsby-Popper Comparison Chart – Plaintiffs’ and 2017 Enacted Plans			
Plan	Polsby-Popper Minimum	Polsby-Popper Maximum	Polsby-Popper Mean
Plaintiffs’ Senate	0.15	0.56	0.35
2017 Enacted Senate	0.11	0.61	0.34
Plaintiffs’ House	0.13	0.71	0.33
2017 Enacted House	0.12	0.31	0.11

13. The Reock scores for the House plans compared indicate that Plaintiffs’ alternative House map is, on average, more compact than the 2017 Enacted House map, and the Senate maps score identically, on average. The Polsby-Popper scores for the House plans show that Plaintiffs’ alternative House map is significantly more compact, on average, than the 2017 Enacted House map, and the Plaintiffs’ alternative Senate map is also more compact than 2017 Enacted Senate map. Thus, based on these widely-accepted mathematical measures, the Plaintiffs’ alternative House and Senate maps have districts that are more compact than the Enacted 2017 maps.

- Split VTDs

14. I again used Maptitude to identify VTDs split in the Plaintiffs’ and Enacted plans.

15. It is important to understand that while VTDs are mostly coterminous with precincts, VTDs are the geographical units used in the 2010 Census database to

report political data. They are also the assignment level available on most currently available redistricting software programs. In several instances since those VTDs were set, boards of elections have created new functioning precincts, subdividing the VTDs. So a VTD may be split, but it can be split along precinct lines, such that no actual precincts are split, even though a VTD is. That preserves all the benefits of avoiding precinct splits.

16. Although the Plaintiffs' plans split 76 Voting Tabulation Districts (VTDs) (and for the most part, precincts) compared to 59 VTD/precinct splits in the 2017 enacted plans, the difference results from the Plaintiffs' adherence to the N.C. Constitution's prohibition against mid-decade revision of districts that were not required to be redrawn. Twenty-two of the split VTDs in the Plaintiffs' plans occur in five House districts in Wake and Mecklenburg counties that are not adjacent to districts that the *Covington* court held unconstitutional. The Plaintiffs refrained from changing those five House districts in their plan, because it was not necessary to redraw those districts in order to remedy the two state house districts in Wake County that were ruled to be racial gerrymanders. The General Assembly, however, redrew all the districts in Wake County. If the 22 splits from those districts are subtracted from the Plaintiffs' total, the Plaintiffs split only 54 VTDs to the General Assembly's 59.
17. Both the Plaintiffs and the General Assembly left in place 28 VTD splits in county groupings that were unchanged from the groupings used in the 2011 plan and that did not contain districts held unconstitutional. When all the untouched splits are subtracted from each plan, the count is 26 splits for the Plaintiffs and 31 for the General Assembly. The Plaintiffs split no VTDs in the Senate plan where they had a choice.
18. Thus, by factoring out the changes to districts that the legislature was not allowed to change, the Plaintiffs' alternative plans split fewer VTDs than did the 2017 Enacted plans, while still remedying the constitutional flaws.

- Split Municipalities

19. When appropriate factors are considered, the Plaintiffs plans had only six more municipal splits than the 2017 Enacted plans. The Plaintiffs' two plans had a raw total of 11 more municipal splits than the 2017 Enacted plans—190 to 179. It is appropriate, however, when analyzing split precincts to subtract those splits where one part of the split had zero population. When zero-population splits are subtracted from both plans, the Plaintiffs drew only nine more splits—179 to 170. In the Plaintiffs' maps, three of those splits result from the Plaintiffs' preservation of five House districts in unchanged county groups that did not touch

unconstitutional districts or need to be altered to remedy the unconstitutional districts. When those three resulting municipal splits are subtracted from the total, Plaintiffs have only six more splits—176 to 170.

20. The lion's share of municipal splits neither the Plaintiffs nor the General Assembly had any choice but to make. Fifty-four splits were legacies from the 2011 map—they were in county groupings that were unchanged from 2011 and contained no districts that were held unconstitutional. Another 66 splits were required by the new county groupings—that is, where municipalities span county boundaries, as is not uncommon in North Carolina. Five cities had to be split in the Senate because they had more 2010 population than a Senate district can have under one-person, one-vote. Ten cities are too populous to be wholly contained within a House District. When all those factors are subtracted, the municipal split count is 46 for the Plaintiffs and 40 for the General Assembly.

21. In my experience, these are comparable numbers of municipal splits, and the districts I drew for Plaintiffs minimized the number of municipal splits while also balancing the need to cure the racial gerrymandering and also comply with the state constitution, two things that the Enacted maps did not accomplish.

- Comparison Across Multiple Metrics – Select Counties

22. In addition to assessing each of the abovementioned metrics across each plan, I also produced a chart assessing those metrics within certain urban counties in North Carolina.

23. The following chart compares districts in Wake County in Exhibits A and B with Wake districts in the Lewis/Hise enacted maps as measured (a) by the number of divided precincts (b) the number of divided towns (c) Reock and Polsby-Popper compactness scores. In these charts, the data are for districts and portions of districts within the county. Where a district is partly in the county and partly outside the county, only the part in the county is included.

	2017 Enacted Wake Senate Districts	Plaintiffs' Wake Senate Districts	2017 Enacted Wake House Districts	Plaintiffs' Wake House Districts
Divided VTDs	1	0	4	2* (17)
Divided Municipalities	5	5	8	7** (9)
Reock Min	0.25	0.26	0.31	0.28

Reock Max	0.50	0.59	0.51	0.57
Reock Mean	0.39	0.41	0.40	0.39
Polsby-Popper Min	0.11	0.31	0.21	0.22
Polsby-Popper Max	0.48	0.45	0.48	0.57
Polsby-Popper Mean	0.28	0.38	0.35	0.32

24. The asterisk (*) indicates that while there were 17 total split VTDs in the Plaintiffs' plan, 15 of the split VTDs in the Wake House districts result from the preservation of Districts 36, 37, 40, and 41—the four districts that are not adjacent to unconstitutional districts and therefore cannot be altered under the state constitution. Thus, the Plaintiffs only split 2 VTDs in their redrawn districts, and this is the relevant measure. The double asterisks (**) indicate that while there are 9 split municipalities in Plaintiffs' plan, two split municipalities result from preservation of those same districts that are not allowed to be altered under the state constitution. Thus, the Plaintiffs' plan only splits 7 municipalities in their redrawn districts, and this is the relevant measure.

25. This data thus demonstrates that the Plaintiffs' plans better comply with the traditional redistricting criteria of respecting VTDs and municipal boundaries than do the 2017 Enacted plans. The compactness scores for both the Plaintiffs' and 2017 Enacted plans are roughly comparable, although the Plaintiffs' Senate plan is more compact and the Plaintiffs' House plan is only less compact because the plan maintains four districts as drawn in 2011.

26. The following chart compares the districts located in Mecklenburg County in Exhibits A and B with the Mecklenburg County districts in the Lewis/Hise enacted maps as measured (a) by the number of divided precincts (b) the number of divided towns (c) Reock and Polsby-Popper compactness scores.

	2017 Enacted Meck. Senate Districts	Plaintiffs' Meck. Senate Districts	2017 Enacted Meck. House Districts	Plaintiffs' Meck. House Districts
Divided VTDs	2	0	3	3* (10)
Divided Municipalities	3	3	4	5** (6)

Reock Min	0.19	0.29	0.27	0.27
Reock Max	0.47	0.56	0.70	0.48
Reock Mean	0.37	0.40	0.48	0.38
Polsby-Popper Min	0.13	0.25	0.20	0.23
Polsby-Popper Max	0.42	0.45	0.64	0.47
Polsby-Popper Mean	0.28	0.32	0.37	0.32

27. The asterisk (*) indicates that while there were 10 total split VTDs in the Plaintiffs' plan, 7 of the split VTDs in the Mecklenburg House districts result from the preservation of District 105—the district not adjacent to unconstitutional districts and therefore not allowed to be altered under the state constitution. Thus, plaintiffs only split 3 VTDs in their redrawn districts, and this is the relevant measure. The double asterisks (**) indicate that while there are 6 split municipalities in Plaintiffs' plan, one split municipality results from preservation of that same district not allowed to be altered under the state constitution. Thus, Plaintiffs only split 5 municipalities in their redrawn districts, and this is the relevant measure.

28. This data thus demonstrates that Plaintiffs' plans better comply with the traditional redistricting criteria of respecting VTDs, and since Plaintiffs' House plan only splits one more municipality than in the 2017 Enacted House plan, it is roughly comparable. The average compactness scores for both the Plaintiffs' and 2017 Enacted plans are also roughly comparable, although the Plaintiffs' Senate plan is more compact on average than the Enacted Senate plan, and to the extent that Plaintiffs' House plan slightly less compact than the Enacted House plan, this may result from the maintenance of HD 105 as a district not allowed to be changed.

29. The following chart compares the districts located in Cumberland County in Exhibits A and B with the Cumberland County districts in the Lewis/Hise enacted maps as measured (a) by the number of divided precincts (b) the number of divided towns (c) Reock and Polsby Popper compactness scores.

	2017 Enacted Cumberland Senate Districts	Plaintiffs' Cumberland Senate Districts	2017 Enacted Cumberland House Districts	Plaintiffs' Cumberland House Districts
Divided VTDs	3	0	1	2

Divided Municipalities	2	1	2	2
Reock Min	0.31	0.48	0.34	0.29
Reock Max	0.45	0.59	0.50	0.39
Reock Mean	0.38	0.54	0.45	0.34
P-P Min	0.17	0.32	0.22	0.25
Polsby-Popper Max	0.20	0.52	0.40	0.32
Polsby-Popper Mean	0.18	0.42	0.29	0.27

30. This data thus demonstrates that Plaintiffs’ plans slightly better comply with the traditional redistricting criteria of respecting VTDs and municipal boundaries than did the 2017 Enacted plans. The compactness scores for both the Plaintiffs’ and 2017 Enacted plans are roughly comparable.

- Racial Demographics

31. For certain urban counties, counsel for Plaintiffs also asked me to produce charts documenting the black voting age population (“BVAP”) in each district in the county in the 2003 Enacted plans, 2011 Enacted plans, 2017 enacted plans, and Plaintiffs’ alternative plans. I also produced charts explaining what percentage of the county’s black voting age population were placed in which districts in each of the four plans examined. For both kinds of charts, only the portions of districts within the county are considered. For 2003 plans, 2000 Census data is used. For 2011 and 2017 plans, 2010 Census data is used.

- Mecklenburg County

32. The following chart compares the BVAP for each district located in Mecklenburg County in Exhibits A and B, in the Lewis/Hise maps and the 2003 and 2011 maps.

Meck House	2003 Enacted	2011 Enacted	2017 Enacted	Plaintiffs
88	n/a	7.94%	38.42%	24.38%
92	n/a	18.18%	30.16%	34.18%
98	9.64%	11.21%	7.74%	14.83%
99	28.29%	54.65%	49.54%	41.99%

Meck Senate	2003 Enacted	2011 Enacted	2017 Enacted	Plaintiffs
35 (pt in 03)	8.88%	n/a	n/a	n/a
37	24.99%	26.34%	42.73%	28.71%
38	47.69%	52.51%	48.46%	46.17%
39	5.18%	6.99%	6.62%	16.47%

100	30.97%	32.01%	32.11%	38.24%
101	50.60%	51.31%	50.82%	47.78%
102	46.11%	53.53%	43.89%	31.02%
103	13.03%	13.07%	7.73%	21.90%
104	4.22%	8.17%	6.22%	8.00%
105	4.48%	9.54%	8.25%	9.54%
106	25.50%	51.12%	38.00%	46.71%
107	50.48%	52.52%	49.39%	43.12%

40	31.11%	51.84%	38.88%	30.15%
41	n/a	13.15%	14.25%	30.03%

33. The following chart compares the percentage of the Mecklenburg County BVAP in each district located in Mecklenburg County in Exhibits A and B, in the Lewis/Hise maps and the 2003 and 2011 maps

<i>Mecklenburg Comparison of County BVAP Divided Amongst Districts</i>						
	2000 BVAP in County	% of Co BVAP in 2003 Dist	2010 BVAP in County	% of Co BVAP in 2011 Dist	% of Co BVAP in 2017 Dist	% of Co BVAP in Ps Dist
BVAP of Whole County	136,029		207,351			
Senate Districts						
Senate Dist 35 (pt in 2003)		1.62%		n/a	n/a	
Senate Dist 37		23.37%		18.20%	29.55%	19.76%
Senate Dist 38		41.98%		34.43%	31.54%	29.85%
Senate Dist 39		4.76%		4.58%	4.42%	10.92%
Senate Dist 40		23.28%		34.29%	25.20%	19.96%
Senate Dist 41		n/a		8.50%	9.29%	19.52%
House Districts						
House Dist 88		n/a		2.31%	10.68%	7.02%
House Dist 92		n/a		4.95%	8.44%	9.46%
House Dist 98		3.64%		3.82%	2.09%	4.00%
House Dist 99		11.22%		14.45%	13.17%	11.82%
House Dist 100		12.35%		9.11%	8.70%	10.34%
House Dist 101		18.46%		14.02%	14.44%	13.29%
House Dist 102		17.77%		14.97%	12.54%	8.45%
House Dist 103		4.86%		3.53%	2.10%	6.05%
House Dist 104		1.72%		2.29%	1.78%	2.24%
House Dist 105		1.65%		2.51%	2.23%	2.51%
House Dist 106		10.20%		14.08%	10.62%	13.07%
House Dist 107		18.12%		14.70%	13.21%	11.73%

34. These charts demonstrate that the 2017 Enacted plans continue to maximize the packing of black voters in Mecklenburg County districts. That same pattern is not present in the 2003 plans or the Plaintiffs' alternative plan.

○ Guilford County

35. The following chart compares the BVAP for each district located in Guilford County in Exhibits A and B, in the Lewis/Hise maps and the 2003 and 2011 maps.

Guilford House	2003 Enacted	2011 Enacted	2017 Enacted	Plaintiffs	Guilford Senate	2003 Enacted	2011 Enacted	2017 Enacted	Plaintiffs
57	21.38%	50.69%	60.75%	22.38%	24 (pt in 17)	n/a	n/a	18.06%	10.41%
58	53.35%	51.11%	42.66%	44.28%	26 (part)	8.88%	11.63%	45.47%	n/a
59	23.52%	13.58%	22.22%	44.76%	27	24.44%	17.01%	12.71%	30.45%
60	50.59%	51.36%	40.06%	42.75%	28	44.18%	56.49%	50.52%	44.66%
61	11.76%	15.33%	11.47%	25.08%	29 (pt in Plntf)	n/a	n/a	n/a	14.41%
62	8.63%	13.30%	13.95%	15.06%	33 (pt in 03)	7.69%	n/a	n/a	n/a

36. The following chart compares the percentage of the Guilford County BVAP in each district located in Guilford County in Exhibits A and B, in the Lewis/Hise maps and the 2003 and 2011 maps.

<i>Guilford Comparison of County BVAP Divided Amongst Districts</i>						
	2000 BVAP in County	% of Co BVAP in 2003 Dist	2010 BVAP in County	% of Co BVAP in 2011 Dist	% of Co BVAP in 2017 Dist	% of Co BVAP in Ps Dist
BVAP of Whole County	89,741		119,853			
Senate Districts						
SD 24 (pt in 2017)		n/a		n/a	4.81%	2.91%
SD 26 (pt in 03, 11 & 17)		5.73%		7.17%	15.21%	n/a
SD 27		35.40%		20.93%	15.89%	39.48%
SD 28		57.44%		71.90%	64.08%	52.22%
SD 29 (pt in Plntf)		n/a		n/a	n/a	5.40%
SD 33 (pt in 2003)		1.43%		n/a	n/a	n/a
House Districts						
HD 57		13.15%		25.04%	32.54%	12.58%
HD 58		31.61%		26.42%	22.34%	21.86%
HD 59		14.47%		7.30%	11.35%	22.55%

HD 60		28.63%		25.97%	20.66%	22.07%
HD 61		6.99%		8.21%	6.76%	13.07%
HD 62		5.15%		7.05%	7.03%	7.88%

37. These charts demonstrate that the 2017 Enacted plans continue to maximize the packing of black voters in Guilford County districts. That same pattern is not present in the 2003 plans or the Plaintiffs' alternative plan.

○ Cumberland County

38. The following chart compares the BVAP for each district located in Cumberland County in Exhibits A and B, in the Lewis/Hise maps and the 2003 and 2011 maps.

Cumberland House	2003 Enacted	2011 Enacted	2017 Enacted	Ps
22 (pt in 03)	18.57%	n/a	n/a	n/a
42	45.11%	52.56%	42.23%	35.24%
43	48.69%	51.45%	49.96%	44.72%
44	27.45%	25.38%	31.78%	34.70%
45	24.19%	19.57%	24.16%	33.71%

Cumberland Senate	2003 Enacted	2011 Enacted	2017 Enacted	Ps
19 (pt in 03)	24.76%	22.49%	25.99%	32.63%
21 (pt in 11,17)	41.00%	56.96%	51.46%	42.91%

39. The following chart compares the percentage of Cumberland County BVAP in each district located in Cumberland County in Exhibits A and B, in the Lewis/Hise maps and the 2003 and 2011 maps.

<i>Cumberland Comparison of County BVAP Divided Amongst Districts</i>						
	2000 BVAP in County	% of Co BVAP in 2003 Dist	2010 BVAP in County	% of Co BVAP in 2011 Dist	% of Co BVAP in 2017 Dist	% of Co BVAP in Ps Dist
BVAP of Whole County	73,702		86,740			
Senate Districts						
SD 19 (pt in 2003)		32.74%		34.92%	39.55%	49.83%
SD 21 (pt in 11 & 17)		67.26%		65.07%	60.45%	50.17%
House Districts						
HD 22 (pt in 2003)		6.68%		n/a	n/a	n/a
HD 42		26.15%		34.36%	27.93%	23.21%
HD 43		31.89%		35.08%	34.18%	30.07%
HD 44		18.36%		17.15%	21.91%	24.14%
HD 45		16.92%		13.41%	15.98%	22.57%

40. Once again, these charts demonstrate that the 2017 enacted plans continue to maximize the packing of black voters in Cumberland County districts. That same pattern is not present in the 2003 plans or the Plaintiffs' alternative plan.

Identified Problems with the 2017 Enacted Plans

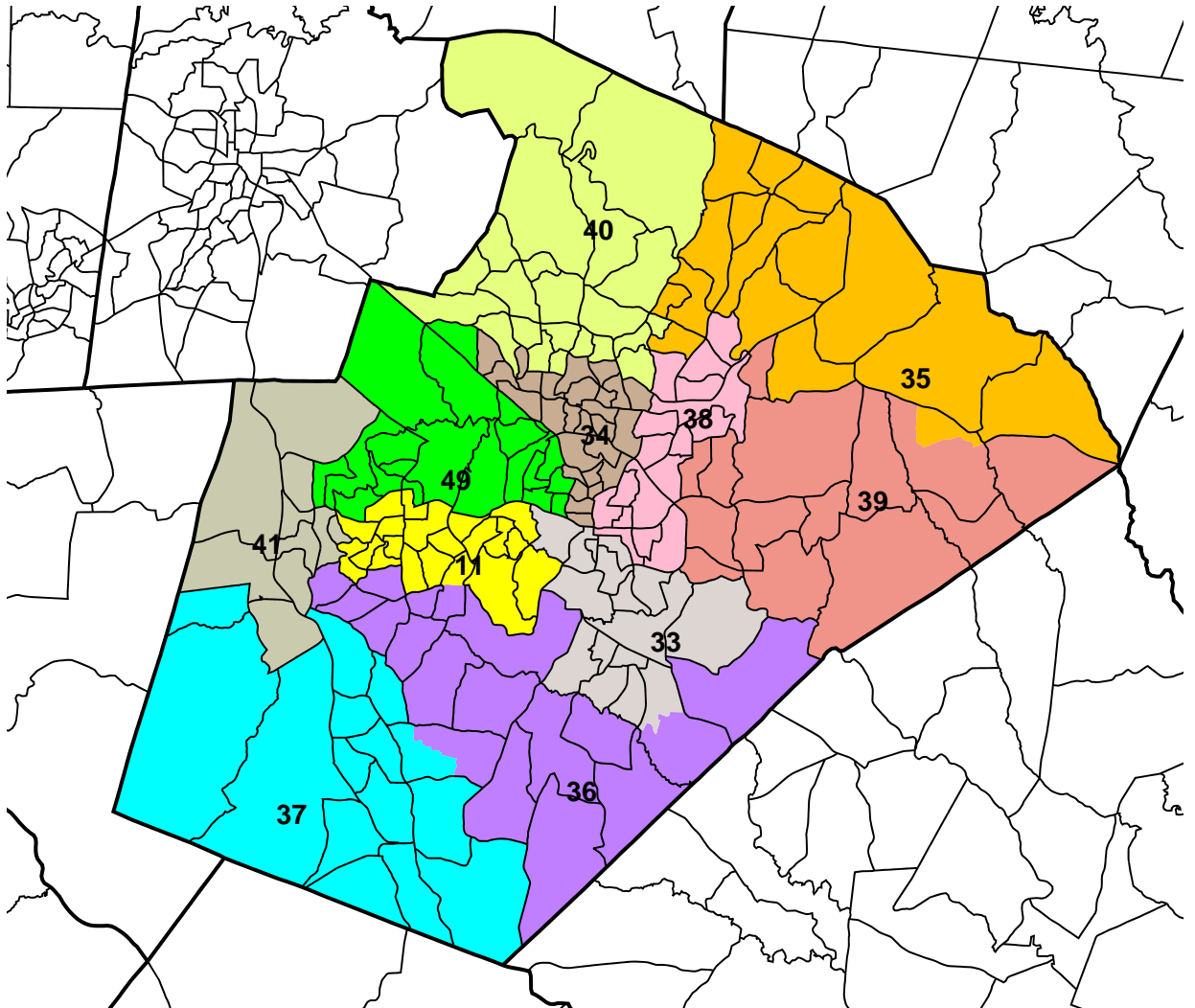
41. Additionally, Plaintiffs asked me to review the Lewis/Hise maps with regard to concerns that the redrawn maps were not in strict compliance with the state constitution. In at least two specific regards, the state's 2017 enacted State House maps violate the state constitution.

- Unnecessarily Altered Districts

42. The North Carolina Constitution explicitly prohibits mid-decade redistricting—that is, it states that once districts are enacted, they may not be altered until after the next decennial census. *See* N.C. CONST. Article II, Sections 3(4) and 5(4). Of course, should a court find that the districts violate federal law, compliance with federal law supersedes that state constitutional requirement. But absent a need to alter a district in order to comply with a court order, districts once enacted may not be changed again.

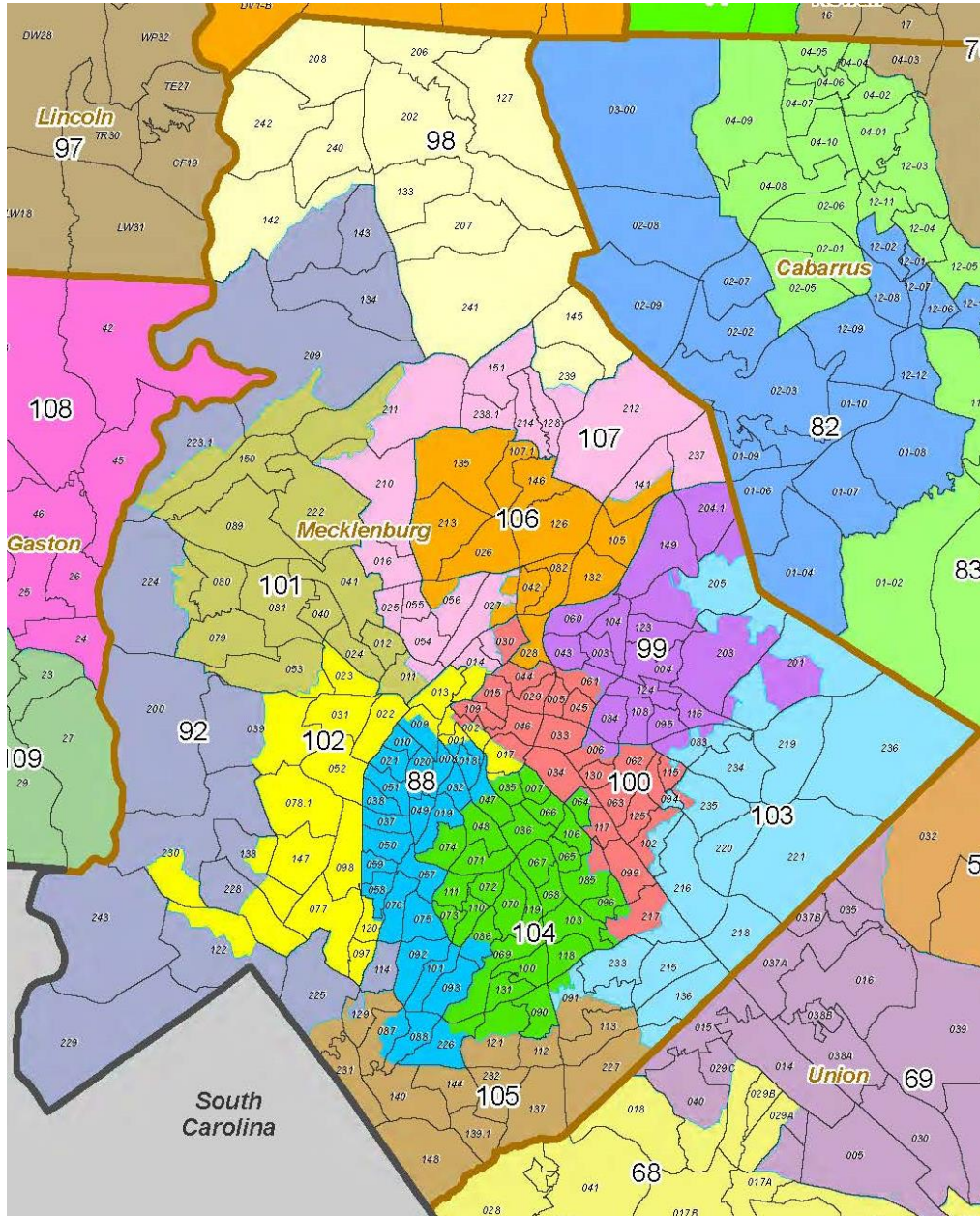
43. In the 2017 Enacted House map, in Wake and Mecklenburg Counties, the legislature changed state house districts that did not need to be altered to correct the constitutional flaw.

45. Nevertheless, as the Court will observe from the map below, Rep. Lewis altered the boundaries of Districts 36, 37, 40, and 41 in the 2017 enacted plan.

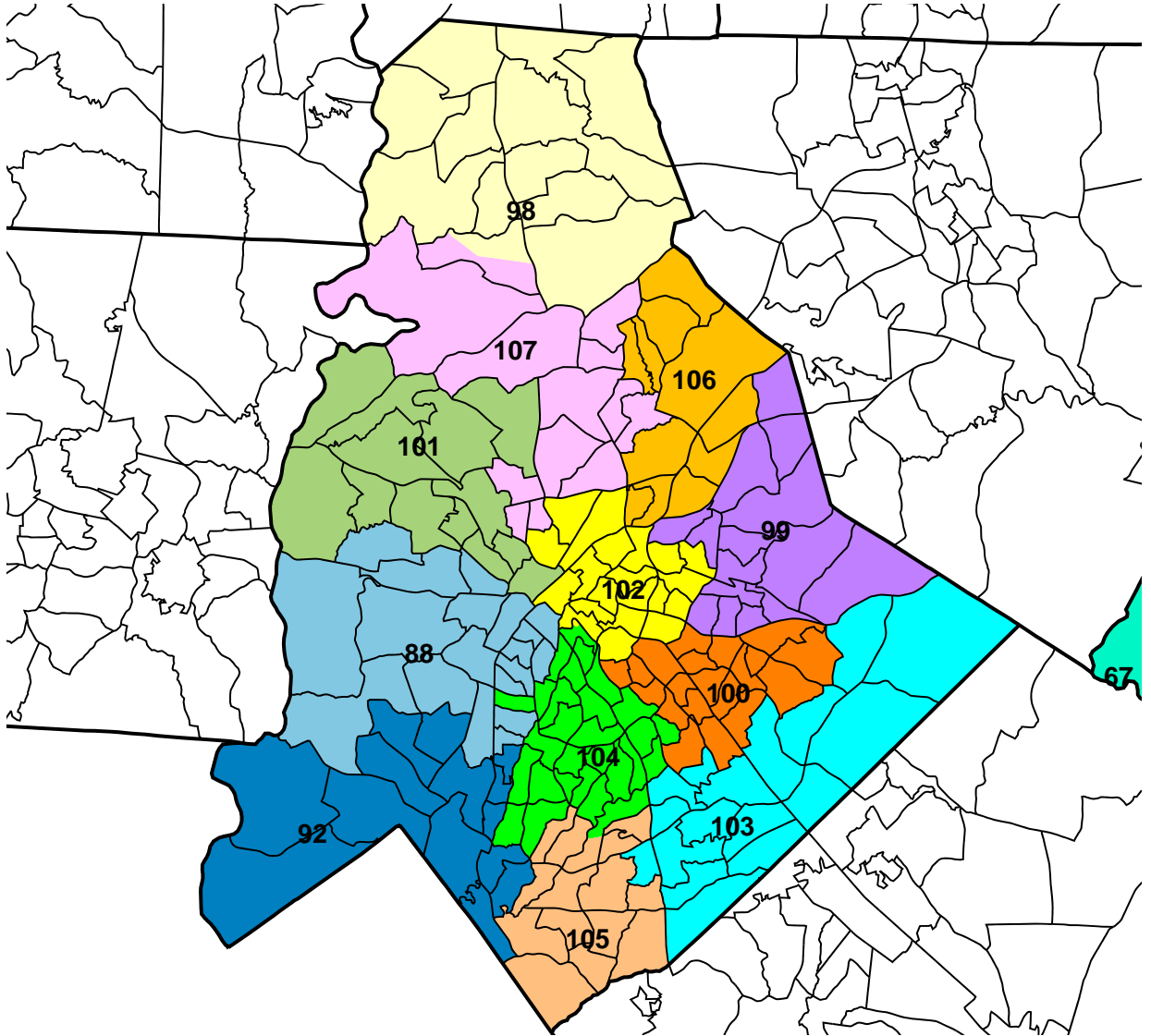


46. Plaintiffs' alternative map demonstrates that it is possible to correct the racial gerrymandering identified in two of Wake County's eleven State House districts without altering the boundaries of Districts 36, 37, 40, and 41 from their 2011 forms. As such, because it is not necessary to alter them to comply with this Court's order, the state constitution prohibits their alteration.

47. Below is a map of the districts in Mecklenburg County in the 2011 House Plan. House Districts 99, 102, and 107 in that plan were declared invalid by this Court. As the Court will observe, House District 105 does not touch any part of invalid Districts 99, 102, or 105.



48. Nevertheless, as the Court will observe from the map below, Rep. Lewis altered the boundaries of District 105 in the 2017 plan.



49. Plaintiffs' alternative map demonstrates that it is possible to correct the racial gerrymandering identified in three of Wake County's twelve State House districts without altering the boundaries of District 105 from its 2011 form. As such, because it is not necessary to alter that district to comply with this Court's order, the state constitution prohibits its alteration.

- Districts Unnecessarily Spanning Extra Counties

50. In two clusters, the enacted House plan contains districts that are not compliant with the Whole County Provision because they span more counties than is necessary and are not drawn as the North Carolina Supreme Court has instructed that districts be drawn in order to maximally comply with the WCP.
51. Both the 2017 Enacted House map and Plaintiffs' alternative House map contain a seven county cluster comprised of Davie, Rowan, Cabarrus, Stanly, Montgomery and Richmond Counties. Both clusters contain 6 districts. In the Plaintiffs' alternative plan, Cabarrus County contains two whole house districts and part of a third. In the 2017 Enacted plan, Cabarrus contains only one whole district, and two partial districts. That is, the enacted plan does not keep districts wholly within counties where possible (as evidenced by the Plaintiff's alternative map with the same cluster). This violates the North Carolina Supreme Court's interpretation of the Whole County Provision.
52. The next WCP problem is similar. It concerns the construction of HD 10 in the 2017 Enacted house plan. The equivalent district is HD 21 in the Plaintiffs' plan. Each district is part of a seven-county cluster comprised of Greene, Wayne, Sampson, Bladen, Johnston, Harnett, and Lee Counties. In Plaintiffs' version, HD 21 comprises all of Greene County, and just as much of adjacent Wayne County as is necessary to achieve population equality (or near equality). In the enacted map, HD 10 starts with all of Greene County, but it adds portions of Wayne and Johnston County, when it was not necessary to stretch into Johnston County in order to achieve the appropriate population in the district. While the number of county traverses in that cluster in the Enacted House map and the Plaintiffs' alternative House map are the same, the North Carolina Supreme Court, in its *Stephenson* and *Pender County* decisions, has emphasized that optimal compliance with the WCP requires that when one county does not have sufficient population to justify an entire house district, adding only as much population from an adjacent county as is necessary to even out the population. A district unnecessarily spanning three counties violates the state constitution when it can be drawn in only two counties, with one county kept whole.

Cromartie Maps

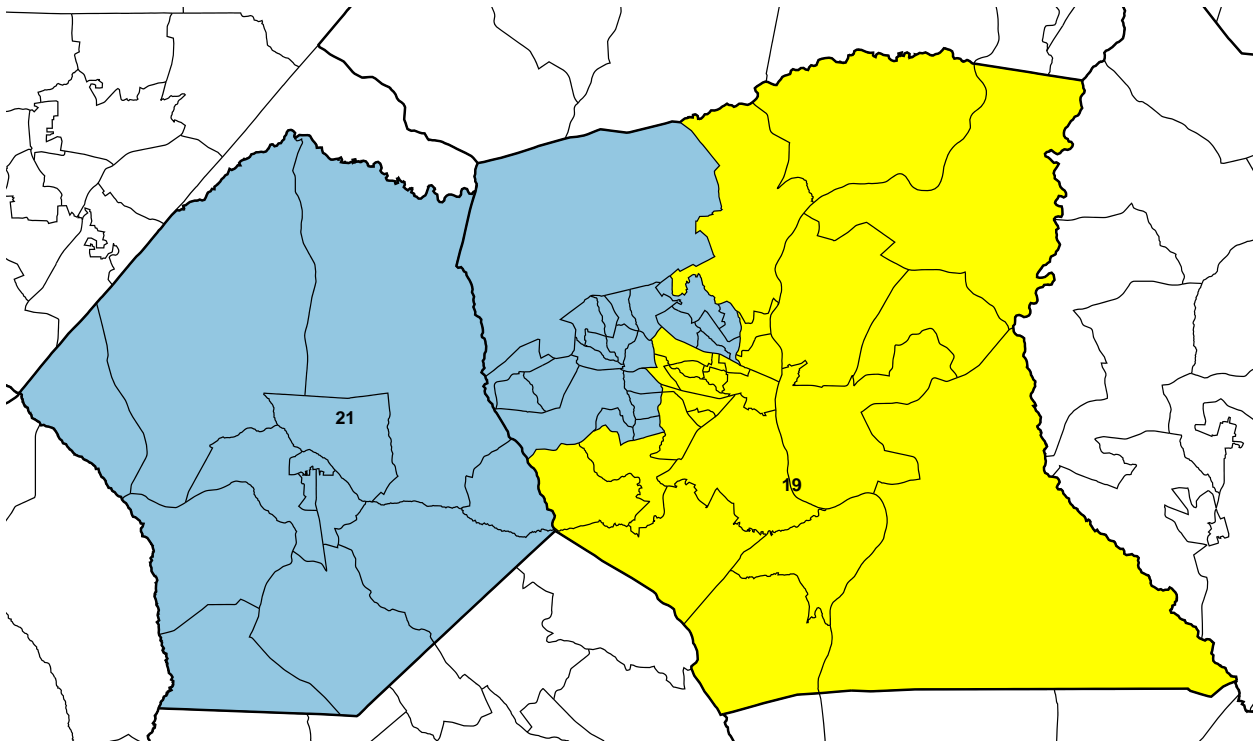
53. Finally, the data in the charts in this declaration demonstrates, and Plaintiffs are arguing, that the 2017 Enacted plans fail to cure all the unconstitutional racial gerrymandering identified by this Court. Specifically, Plaintiffs argue that Senate District 21 in Cumberland County and Senate District 28 in Guilford County,

along with House District 57 in Guilford County and House District 21 in Wayne and Sampson Counties, continue to be racial gerrymanders.

54. Consistent with the United States Supreme Court ruling in *Hunt v. Cromartie*, counsel for Plaintiffs have asked me to produce *Cromartie* demonstrative maps for SD 21, 28, and HD 57 showing that it is possible to achieve the same political outcome without using race as a predominant motive for selecting which voters to include or exclude from the district.

55. Below is a *Cromartie* demonstrative map of Senate Districts 21 and 19 in Hoke and Cumberland Counties:

Cumberland/Hoke – Cromartie Demonstrative Map



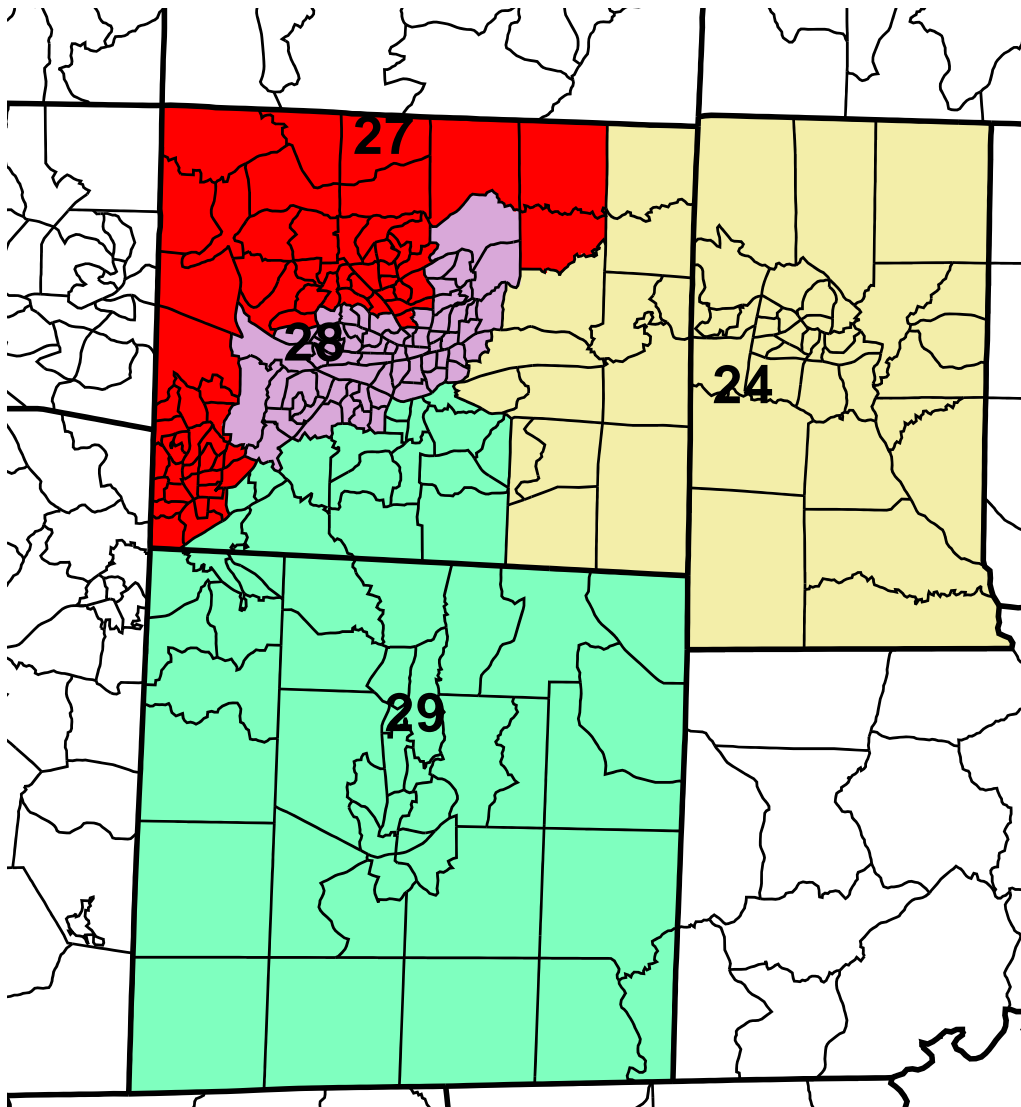
56. Just as in the 2017 Enacted plan, Senate District 21 in the *Cromartie* demonstrative map above is a Democratic-leaning district and Senate District 19 is a Republican-leaning district, measured using 2016 and 2012 election results:

<i>Cromartie</i> Demonstrative Dist.	2016 U.S. Senate	2012 Governor
19	Republican Win	Republican Win
21	Democratic Win	Democratic Win

57. Moreover, Senate District 21 in the *Cromartie* demonstrative map is more compact and does not perpetuate the same racial segregation first seen in its 2011 configuration and again in the 2017 Enacted version. As such, the legislature cannot claim that party, not race, was the predominant motive in the construction of this district in the 2017 Enacted Senate map.

58. Below is a *Cromartie* demonstrative map of Senate Districts 24, 26, 27 and 28 in Alamance, Guilford and Randolph Counties (a three-county cluster):

Guilford/Alamance/Randolph – *Cromartie* Demonstrative Map



59. Just as in the 2017 Enacted Senate map, Senate District 28 in the *Cromartie* demonstrative map above is a Democratic-leaning district, while Senate Districts

24, 26 and 27 are Republican-leaning districts, measured using 2016 and 2012 election results:

<i>Cromartie</i> Demonstrative District	2016 U.S. Senate	2012 Governor
24	Republican Win	Republican Win
26	Republican Win	Republican Win
28	Democratic Win	Democratic Win
29	Republican Win	Republican Win

60. Moreover, Senate District 28 in the *Cromartie* demonstrative map is more compact and does not perpetuate the same racial segregation first seen in its 2011 configuration and again in its 2017 Enacted version. As such, the legislature cannot claim that party, not race, was the predominant motive in the construction of this district in the 2017 Enacted Senate plan.

The map displays the 60th Congressional District in New York, which is highlighted in yellow. It includes Hamilton, Warren, Schoharie, and Rensselaer counties. Surrounding districts are color-coded: green for the 62nd district (Dutchess, Ulster, Sullivan), blue for the 61st district (Albany, Saratoga, Schenectady), and orange for the 59th district (Columbia, Greene, Warren). The map also shows other nearby districts and their corresponding colors: 021 (white), 066 (white), 068 (white), 062 (white), 063 (white), 064 (white), 065 (white), 061 (white), 013 (white), 067 (white), 014 (white), 015 (white), 012 (white), 02 (white), 80 (white), 72 (white), 60 (white), 01 (white), 03 (white), 25 (white), 22 (white), 29 (white), 30 (white), 23 (white), 04 (white), 035 (white), 03N (white), 03C (white), 125 (white), 03S (white), 129 (white), 02 (white), 01 (white).

<i>Cromartie</i> Demonstrative Dist.	2016 U.S. Senate	2012 Governor
57	Democratic Win	Democratic Win
58	Democratic Win	Democratic Win
59	Republican Win	Republican Win
60	Democratic Win	Democratic Win
61	Republican Win	Republican Win

62	Republican Win	Republican Win
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63. Moreover, House District 57 in the *Cromartie* demonstrative map is not as packed with black voters (the BVAP is lowered from 60.75% in the 2017 Enacted version to 41.4% in the *Cromartie* demonstrative version) and thus does not perpetuate the same racial segregation first seen in its 2011 configuration and again in the 2017 Enacted version. As such, the legislature cannot claim that party, not race, was the predominant motive in the construction of this district in the 2017 Enacted House plan.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on this 15th day of September, 2017.

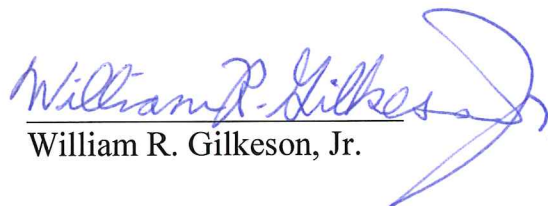
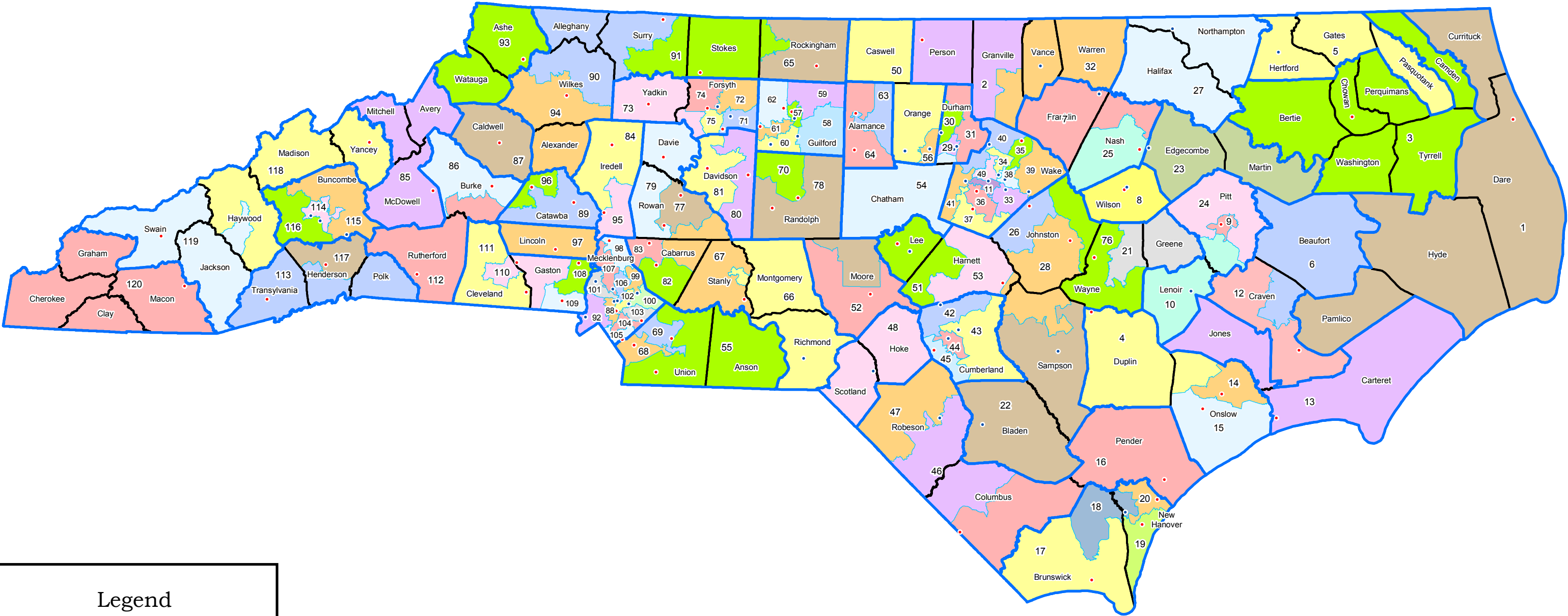

 William R. Gilkeson, Jr.

EXHIBIT A

PLAINTIFFS' HOUSE PLAN GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAP AND STAT PACK

Covington Plaintiffs Proposed House Plan



Plan: HSA-1
Plan Type:

Administrator
User:

Districts & Their Incumbents

Thursday, August 24, 2017

1:34 PM

District	Name	Party	Previous District
1	Boswell	Republican	6
2	Yarborough	Republican	2
3	Steinburg	Republican	1
4	Dixon	Republican	4
5	Hunter	Democratic	5
6			
7	B.Richardson	Democratic	7
8	S.Martin	Republican	8
8	Farmer-Butterfield	Democratic	24
9	Murphy	Republican	9
10	G.Graham	Democratic	12
11	Duane Hall	Democratic	11
12	Speciale	Republican	3
13	McElraft	Republican	13
14	Cleveland	Republican	14
15	Shepard	Republican	15
16	Brenden Jones	Republican	46
16	Millis	Republican	16
17	Iler	Republican	17
18	Butler	Democratic	18
19	Davis	Republican	19
20	Grange	Republican	20
21			
22	Brisson	Democratic	22
22	L.Bell	Democratic	21
23	Willingham	Democratic	23

District	Name	Party	Previous District
24			
25	Collins	Republican	25
26	White	Republican	26
27	Wray	Democratic	27
28	Strickland	Republican	28
29	Black	Democratic	29
29	Michaux	Democratic	31
30	Morey	Democratic	30
31			
32	Garrison	Democratic	32
33	Gill	Democratic	33
34	G.Martin	Democratic	34
35	Malone	Republican	35
36	Dollar	Republican	36
37	Williams	Republican	37
38	Holley	Democratic	38
39	Jackson	Democratic	39
40	John	Democratic	40
41	Adcock	Democratic	41
42	Lucas	Democratic	42
43	Floyd	Democratic	43
44	W.Richardson	Democratic	44
45	Szoka	Republican	45
46			
47	C.Graham	Democratic	47
48	Pierce	Democratic	48
49	Ball	Democrat	49
50	Meyer	Democratic	50
51	Sauls	Republican	51
51	Reives	Democratic	54
52	Boles	Republican	52
53	Lewis	Republican	53

District	Name	Party	Previous District
54			
55	Brody	Republican	55
56	Insko	Democratic	56
57	Harrison	Democratic	57
57	Hardister	Republican	59
58	Quick	Democratic	58
59			
60	Brockman	Democratic	60
61	Faircloth	Republican	61
62	Blust	Republican	62
63	Ross	Republican	63
64	Riddell	Republican	64
65	Bert Jones	Republican	65
66	Goodman	Democratic	66
67	Burr	Republican	67
68	Horn	Republican	68
69	Arp	Republican	69
70	Hurley	Republican	70
71	Lambeth	Republican	75
71	Terry	Democratic	71
72	Hanes	Democratic	72
73	Zachary	Republican	73
74	Conrad	Republican	74
75			
76	J.Bell	Republican	10
77	Ford	Republican	76
77	Warren	Republican	77
78	McNiell	Republican	78
79	Howard	Republican	79
80	Watford	Republican	80
81	Potts	Republican	81
82	Pittman	Republican	82

District	Name	Party	Previous District
83	Johnson	Republican	83
84	R.Turner	Republican	84
85	Dobson	Republican	85
86	Blackwell	Republican	86
87	Destin Hall	Republican	87
88	Belk	Democratic	88
89	Setzer	Republican	89
90	Stevens	Republican	90
91	K.Hall	Republican	91
92	Beasley	Democratic	92
93	Jordan	Republican	93
94	Elmore	Republican	94
95	Fraley	Republican	95
96	Adams	Republican	96
97	Saine	Republican	97
98	Bradford	Republican	98
99	R.Moore	Democratic	99
100	Autry	Democratic	100
101	Earle	Democratic	101
102	Dulin	Republican	104
102	Carney	Democratic	102
103	Brawley	Republican	103
104			
105	Stone	Republican	105
106	Cunningham	Democratic	106
107	Alexander	Democratic	107
108	Torbett	Republican	108
109	Bumgardner	Republican	109
110	Hastings	Republican	110
111	T.Moore	Republican	111
112	Rogers	Republican	112
113	Henson	Republican	113

District	Name	Party	Previous District
114	Fisher	Democratic	114
115	Ager	Democratic	115
116	B.Turner	Democratic	116
117	McGrady	Republican	117
118	Presnell	Republican	118
119	Clampitt	Republican	119
120	Corbin	Republican	120

Number of Incumbents in District with more than one Incumbent:	18	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Number of Districts with No Incumbent:	9	<input type="text"/>	
Number of Districts with Incumbents of more than one party:	5	<input type="text"/>	
Number of Districts with Paired Democrats:	2	<input type="text"/>	
Number of Districts with Paired Republicans:	2	<input type="text"/>	

HSA-1 Jackson Covington Plaintiffs Proposed House Plan: Municipality-District

Municipality	District	Total Muni Pop	Total District Pop	Muni Pop in District	Percent of Muni Pop in District	Percent of District Pop in Muni
Aberdeen	52	6,350	76,894	6,350	100.00%	8.26%
Ahoskie	5	5,039	77,527	5,039	100.00%	6.50%
Alamance	64	951	75,581	951	100.00%	1.26%
Albemarle	66	15,903	81,734	5,861	36.85%	7.17%
	67	15,903	81,314	10,042	63.15%	12.35%
Alliance	1	776	76,421	776	100.00%	1.02%
Andrews	120	1,781	80,814	1,781	100.00%	2.20%
Angier (Harnett)	53	4,247	83,434	4,247	100.00%	5.09%
Angier (Wake)	37	103	83,318	103	100.00%	0.12%
Ansonville	55	631	75,792	631	100.00%	0.83%
Apex	36	37,476	83,373	7,343	19.59%	8.81%
	37	37,476	83,318	11,985	31.98%	14.38%
	41	37,476	82,866	18,148	48.43%	21.90%
Arapahoe	1	556	76,421	556	100.00%	0.73%
Archdale (Guilford)	60	333	82,909	333	100.00%	0.40%
Archdale (Randolph)	70	11,082	76,125	11,082	100.00%	14.56%
Archer Lodge	26	4,292	83,434	4,292	100.00%	5.14%
Asheboro	70	25,012	76,125	21,327	85.27%	28.02%
	78	25,012	76,980	3,685	14.73%	4.79%
Asheville	114	83,393	82,902	66,182	79.36%	79.83%
	115	83,393	79,883	5,409	6.49%	6.77%
	116	83,393	75,533	11,802	14.15%	15.62%
Askewville	3	241	77,143	241	100.00%	0.31%
Atkinson	16	299	82,422	299	100.00%	0.36%
Atlantic Beach	13	1,495	76,622	1,495	100.00%	1.95%
Aulander	3	895	77,143	895	100.00%	1.16%
Aurora	6	520	75,544	520	100.00%	0.69%
Autryville	22	196	83,428	196	100.00%	0.23%
Ayden	10	4,932	76,487	4,932	100.00%	6.45%
Badin	67	1,974	81,314	1,974	100.00%	2.43%
Bailey	25	569	78,391	569	100.00%	0.73%
Bakersville	85	464	78,372	464	100.00%	0.59%
Bald Head Island	17	158	77,263	158	100.00%	0.20%
Banner Elk	85	1,028	78,372	1,028	100.00%	1.31%
Bath	6	249	75,544	249	100.00%	0.33%
Bayboro	1	1,263	76,421	1,263	100.00%	1.65%
Bear Grass	23	73	81,057	73	100.00%	0.09%
Beaufort	13	4,039	76,622	4,039	100.00%	5.27%
Beech Mountain (Avery)	85	24	78,372	24	100.00%	0.03%
Beech Mountain (Watauga)	93	296	78,360	296	100.00%	0.38%
Belhaven	6	1,688	75,544	1,688	100.00%	2.23%
Belmont	108	10,076	76,926	4,622	45.87%	6.01%
	109	10,076	75,517	5,454	54.13%	7.22%
Belville	18	1,936	77,681	1,936	100.00%	2.49%
Belwood	111	950	76,148	950	100.00%	1.25%
Benson (Harnett)	53	0	83,434	0	0.00%	0.00%
Benson (Johnston)	28	3,311	83,429	3,311	100.00%	3.97%

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Printed 08/24/2017 {rptG03|dc2017HS|re1.3.1}

Page 1 of 16

HSA-1 Jackson Covington Plaintiffs Proposed House Plan: Municipality-District

Municipality	District	Total Muni Pop	Total District Pop	Muni Pop in District	Percent of Muni Pop in District	Percent of District Pop in Muni
Bermuda Run	79	1,725	82,213	1,725	100.00%	2.10%
Bessemer City	110	5,340	75,573	5,340	100.00%	7.07%
Bethania	74	328	76,092	328	100.00%	0.43%
Bethel	24	1,577	75,539	1,577	100.00%	2.09%
Beulaville	4	1,296	76,858	1,296	100.00%	1.69%
Biltmore Forest	116	1,343	75,533	1,343	100.00%	1.78%
Biscoe	66	1,700	81,734	1,700	100.00%	2.08%
Black Creek	8	769	81,234	769	100.00%	0.95%
Black Mountain	115	7,848	79,883	7,848	100.00%	9.82%
Bladenboro	22	1,750	83,428	1,750	100.00%	2.10%
Blowing Rock (Caldwell)	87	49	83,029	49	100.00%	0.06%
Blowing Rock (Watauga)	93	1,192	78,360	1,192	100.00%	1.52%
Boardman	46	157	81,643	157	100.00%	0.19%
Bogue	13	684	76,622	684	100.00%	0.89%
Boiling Spring Lakes	17	5,372	77,263	5,370	99.96%	6.95%
	18	5,372	77,681	2	0.04%	0.00%
Boiling Springs	111	4,647	76,148	4,647	100.00%	6.10%
Bolivia	18	143	77,681	143	100.00%	0.18%
Bolton	16	691	82,422	691	100.00%	0.84%
Boone	93	17,122	78,360	17,122	100.00%	21.85%
Boonville	73	1,222	77,321	1,222	100.00%	1.58%
Bostic	112	386	79,547	386	100.00%	0.49%
Brevard	113	7,609	81,089	7,609	100.00%	9.38%
Bridgeton	6	454	75,544	454	100.00%	0.60%
	12	454	75,720	0	0.00%	0.00%
Broadway (Harnett)	51	25	83,434	25	100.00%	0.03%
Broadway (Lee)	51	1,204	83,434	1,204	100.00%	1.44%
Brookford	89	382	77,838	321	84.03%	0.41%
	96	382	76,520	61	15.97%	0.08%
Brunswick	16	1,119	82,422	691	61.75%	0.84%
	46	1,119	81,643	428	38.25%	0.52%
Bryson City	119	1,424	75,548	1,424	100.00%	1.88%
Bunn	7	344	78,068	344	100.00%	0.44%
Burgaw	16	3,872	82,422	3,872	100.00%	4.70%
Burlington (Alamance)	63	49,308	75,550	23,248	47.15%	30.77%
	64	49,308	75,581	26,060	52.85%	34.48%
Burlington (Guilford)	58	655	77,567	655	100.00%	0.84%
Burnsville	118	1,693	76,322	1,693	100.00%	2.22%
Butner	2	7,591	82,891	7,591	100.00%	9.16%
Cajah's Mountain	87	2,823	83,029	2,823	100.00%	3.40%
Calabash	17	1,786	77,263	1,786	100.00%	2.31%
Calypso	4	538	76,858	538	100.00%	0.70%
Cameron	52	285	76,894	285	100.00%	0.37%
Candor	66	840	81,734	840	100.00%	1.03%
Canton	118	4,227	76,322	4,227	100.00%	5.54%
Cape Carteret	13	1,917	76,622	1,917	100.00%	2.50%
Carolina Beach	19	5,706	76,666	5,706	100.00%	7.44%

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Printed 08/24/2017 {rptG03|dc2017HS|re1.3.1}

Page 2 of 16

HSA-1 Jackson Covington Plaintiffs Proposed House Plan: Municipality-District

Municipality	District	Total Muni Pop	Total District Pop	Muni Pop in District	Percent of Muni Pop in District	Percent of District Pop in Muni
Carolina Shores	17	3,048	77,263	3,048	100.00%	3.94%
Carrboro	50	19,582	79,107	2,679	13.68%	3.39%
	56	19,582	78,413	16,903	86.32%	21.56%
Carthage	52	2,205	76,894	6	0.27%	0.01%
	78	2,205	76,980	2,199	99.73%	2.86%
Cary (Chatham)	54	1,422	82,312	1,422	100.00%	1.73%
Cary (Wake)	11	133,812	82,422	27,964	20.90%	33.93%
	36	133,812	83,373	39,430	29.47%	47.29%
	40	133,812	76,609	2,808	2.10%	3.67%
	41	133,812	82,866	49,443	36.95%	59.67%
	49	133,812	81,468	14,167	10.59%	17.39%
Casar	111	297	76,148	297	100.00%	0.39%
Castalia	7	268	78,068	268	100.00%	0.34%
Caswell Beach	17	398	77,263	398	100.00%	0.52%
Catawba	89	603	77,838	603	100.00%	0.77%
Cedar Point	13	1,279	76,622	1,279	100.00%	1.67%
Cedar Rock	87	300	83,029	300	100.00%	0.36%
Centerville	7	89	78,068	89	100.00%	0.11%
Cerro Gordo	46	207	81,643	207	100.00%	0.25%
Chadbourn	46	1,856	81,643	1,856	100.00%	2.27%
Chapel Hill (Durham)	29	2,836	82,725	2,234	78.77%	2.70%
	54	2,836	82,312	602	21.23%	0.73%
Chapel Hill (Orange)	50	54,397	79,107	0	0.00%	0.00%
	56	54,397	78,413	54,397	100.00%	69.37%
Charlotte	88	731,424	75,500	75,500	10.32%	100.00%
	92	731,424	77,927	65,662	8.98%	84.26%
	98	731,424	76,218	22,414	3.06%	29.41%
	99	731,424	76,192	74,383	10.17%	97.63%
	100	731,424	77,928	54,812	7.49%	70.34%
	101	731,424	75,680	70,430	9.63%	93.06%
	102	731,424	75,637	75,637	10.34%	100.00%
	103	731,424	76,107	47,239	6.46%	62.07%
	104	731,424	77,637	64,639	8.84%	83.26%
	105	731,424	75,712	64,266	8.79%	84.88%
	106	731,424	76,822	76,822	10.50%	100.00%
	107	731,424	78,268	39,620	5.42%	50.62%
Cherryville	110	5,760	75,573	5,760	100.00%	7.62%
Chimney Rock Village	112	113	79,547	113	100.00%	0.14%
China Grove	77	3,563	82,902	3,563	100.00%	4.30%
Chocowinity	6	820	75,544	820	100.00%	1.09%
Claremont	89	1,352	77,838	1,352	100.00%	1.74%
Clarkton	22	837	83,428	837	100.00%	1.00%
Clayton (Johnston)	26	16,116	83,434	16,116	100.00%	19.32%
Clayton (Wake)	39	0	83,299	0	0.00%	0.00%
Clemmons	73	18,627	77,321	18,627	100.00%	24.09%
Cleveland	79	871	82,213	871	100.00%	1.06%
Clinton	22	8,639	83,428	8,639	100.00%	10.36%

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Printed 08/24/2017 {rptG03|dc2017HS|re1.3.1}

Page 3 of 16

HSA-1 Jackson Covington Plaintiffs Proposed House Plan: Municipality-District

Municipality	District	Total Muni Pop	Total District Pop	Muni Pop in District	Percent of Muni Pop in District	Percent of District Pop in Muni
Clyde	118	1,223	76,322	1,223	100.00%	1.60%
Coats	53	2,112	83,434	2,112	100.00%	2.53%
Cofield	5	413	77,527	413	100.00%	0.53%
Colerain	3	204	77,143	204	100.00%	0.26%
Columbia	3	891	77,143	891	100.00%	1.15%
Columbus	113	999	81,089	999	100.00%	1.23%
Como	5	91	77,527	91	100.00%	0.12%
Concord	67	79,066	81,314	4	0.01%	0.00%
	82	79,066	81,563	39,016	49.35%	47.84%
	83	79,066	82,975	40,046	50.65%	48.26%
Conetoe	23	294	81,057	294	100.00%	0.36%
Connelly Springs	86	1,669	79,175	1,669	100.00%	2.11%
Conover	89	8,165	77,838	384	4.70%	0.49%
	96	8,165	76,520	7,781	95.30%	10.17%
Conway	27	836	76,790	836	100.00%	1.09%
Cooleemee	79	960	82,213	960	100.00%	1.17%
Cornelius	98	24,866	76,218	21,525	86.56%	28.24%
	107	24,866	78,268	3,341	13.44%	4.27%
Cove City	12	399	75,720	399	100.00%	0.53%
Cramerton	108	4,165	76,926	1	0.02%	0.00%
	109	4,165	75,517	4,164	99.98%	5.51%
Creedmoor	2	4,124	82,891	2,493	60.45%	3.01%
	32	4,124	82,883	1,631	39.55%	1.97%
Creswell	3	276	77,143	276	100.00%	0.36%
Crossnore	85	192	78,372	192	100.00%	0.24%
Dallas	110	4,488	75,573	4,488	100.00%	5.94%
Danbury	91	189	82,879	189	100.00%	0.23%
Davidson (Iredell)	95	294	82,155	294	100.00%	0.36%
Davidson (Mecklenburg)	98	10,650	76,218	10,650	100.00%	13.97%
Dellview	110	13	75,573	13	100.00%	0.02%
Denton	80	1,636	81,522	1,636	100.00%	2.01%
Dillsboro	119	232	75,548	232	100.00%	0.31%
Dobbins Heights	66	866	81,734	866	100.00%	1.06%
Dobson	90	1,586	82,702	1,436	90.54%	1.74%
	91	1,586	82,879	150	9.46%	0.18%
Dortches	7	935	78,068	3	0.32%	0.00%
	25	935	78,391	932	99.68%	1.19%
Dover	12	401	75,720	401	100.00%	0.53%
Drexel	86	1,858	79,175	1,858	100.00%	2.35%
Dublin	22	338	83,428	338	100.00%	0.41%
Duck	1	369	76,421	369	100.00%	0.48%
Dunn	28	9,263	83,429	3,515	37.95%	4.21%
	53	9,263	83,434	5,748	62.05%	6.89%
Durham (Durham)	29	228,300	82,725	79,793	34.95%	96.46%
	30	228,300	83,264	69,895	30.62%	83.94%
	31	228,300	82,791	62,573	27.41%	75.58%
	54	228,300	82,312	16,039	7.03%	19.49%

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Printed 08/24/2017 {rptG03|dc2017HS|re1.3.1}

Page 4 of 16

HSA-1 Jackson Covington Plaintiffs Proposed House Plan: Municipality-District

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Durham (Orange)	50	30	79,107	24	80.00%	0.03%
	56	30	78,413	6	20.00%	0.01%
Durham (Wake)	40	0	76,609	0	0.00%	0.00%
Earl	111	260	76,148	260	100.00%	0.34%
East Arcadia	22	487	83,428	487	100.00%	0.58%
East Bend	73	612	77,321	612	100.00%	0.79%
East Laurinburg	48	300	83,109	300	100.00%	0.36%
East Spencer	77	1,534	82,902	1,534	100.00%	1.85%
Eastover	43	3,628	76,757	3,628	100.00%	4.73%
Eden	65	15,527	83,394	15,527	100.00%	18.62%
Edenton	3	5,004	77,143	5,004	100.00%	6.49%
Elizabeth City (Camden)	3	45	77,143	45	100.00%	0.06%
Elizabeth City (Pasquotank)	5	18,638	77,527	18,638	100.00%	24.04%
Elizabethtown	22	3,583	83,428	3,583	100.00%	4.29%
Elk Park	85	452	78,372	452	100.00%	0.58%
Elkin (Surry)	90	3,921	82,702	3,921	100.00%	4.74%
Elkin (Wilkes)	90	80	82,702	80	100.00%	0.10%
Ellenboro	112	873	79,547	873	100.00%	1.10%
Ellerbe	66	1,054	81,734	1,054	100.00%	1.29%
Elm City	8	1,298	81,234	1,298	100.00%	1.60%
Elon	64	9,419	75,581	9,419	100.00%	12.46%
Emerald Isle	13	3,655	76,622	3,655	100.00%	4.77%
Enfield	27	2,532	76,790	2,532	100.00%	3.30%
Erwin	53	4,405	83,434	4,405	100.00%	5.28%
Eureka	21	197	83,434	197	100.00%	0.24%
Everetts	23	164	81,057	164	100.00%	0.20%
Fair Bluff	46	951	81,643	951	100.00%	1.16%
Fairmont	46	2,663	81,643	2,663	100.00%	3.26%
Fairview	55	3,324	75,792	3,324	100.00%	4.39%
Faison (Duplin)	4	961	76,858	961	100.00%	1.25%
Faison (Sampson)	22	0	83,428	0	0.00%	0.00%
Faith	77	807	82,902	807	100.00%	0.97%
Falcon (Cumberland)	43	258	76,757	258	100.00%	0.34%
Falcon (Sampson)	28	0	83,429	0	0.00%	0.00%
Falkland	24	96	75,539	96	100.00%	0.13%
Fallston	111	607	76,148	607	100.00%	0.80%
Farmville	24	4,654	75,539	4,654	100.00%	6.16%
Fayetteville	42	200,564	79,902	54,791	27.32%	68.57%
	43	200,564	76,757	45,658	22.76%	59.48%
	44	200,564	79,644	62,059	30.94%	77.92%
	45	200,564	83,128	38,056	18.97%	45.78%
Flat Rock	113	3,114	81,089	3,114	100.00%	3.84%
Fletcher	117	7,187	79,251	7,187	100.00%	9.07%
Forest City	112	7,476	79,547	7,476	100.00%	9.40%
Forest Hills	119	365	75,548	365	100.00%	0.48%
Fountain	24	427	75,539	427	100.00%	0.57%
Four Oaks	28	1,921	83,429	1,921	100.00%	2.30%

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Foxfire	52	902	76,894	902	100.00%	1.17%
Franklin	120	3,845	80,814	3,845	100.00%	4.76%
Franklinton	7	2,023	78,068	2,023	100.00%	2.59%
Franklinville	78	1,164	76,980	1,164	100.00%	1.51%
Fremont	21	1,255	83,434	0	0.00%	0.00%
	76	1,255	83,435	1,255	100.00%	1.50%
Fuquay-Varina	36	17,937	83,373	228	1.27%	0.27%
	37	17,937	83,318	17,709	98.73%	21.25%
Gamewell	87	4,051	83,029	4,051	100.00%	4.88%
Garland	22	625	83,428	625	100.00%	0.75%
Garner	33	25,745	83,261	23,941	92.99%	28.75%
	36	25,745	83,373	1,804	7.01%	2.16%
Garysburg	27	1,057	76,790	1,057	100.00%	1.38%
Gaston	27	1,152	76,790	1,152	100.00%	1.50%
Gastonia	108	71,741	76,926	26,870	37.45%	34.93%
	109	71,741	75,517	41,847	58.33%	55.41%
	110	71,741	75,573	3,024	4.22%	4.00%
Gatesville	5	321	77,527	321	100.00%	0.41%
Gibson	48	540	83,109	540	100.00%	0.65%
Gibsonville (Alamance)	64	3,148	75,581	3,148	100.00%	4.17%
Gibsonville (Guilford)	58	3,262	77,567	3,262	100.00%	4.21%
Glen Alpine	86	1,517	79,175	1,517	100.00%	1.92%
Godwin	43	139	76,757	139	100.00%	0.18%
Goldsboro	21	36,437	83,434	34,806	95.52%	41.72%
	76	36,437	83,435	1,631	4.48%	1.95%
Goldston	54	268	82,312	268	100.00%	0.33%
Graham	63	14,153	75,550	14,153	100.00%	18.73%
Grandfather	85	25	78,372	25	100.00%	0.03%
Granite Falls	87	4,722	83,029	4,722	100.00%	5.69%
Granite Quarry	77	2,930	82,902	2,930	100.00%	3.53%
Grantsboro	1	688	76,421	688	100.00%	0.90%
Green Level	63	2,100	75,550	2,100	100.00%	2.78%
Greenevers	4	634	76,858	634	100.00%	0.82%
Greensboro	57	269,666	83,226	83,226	30.86%	100.00%
	58	269,666	77,567	32,637	12.10%	42.08%
	59	269,666	81,528	54,911	20.36%	67.35%
	60	269,666	82,909	20,254	7.51%	24.43%
	61	269,666	81,135	32,254	11.96%	39.75%
	62	269,666	82,041	46,384	17.20%	56.54%
Greenville	9	84,554	75,617	59,682	70.58%	78.93%
	24	84,554	75,539	24,872	29.42%	32.93%
Grifton (Lenoir)	10	186	76,487	186	100.00%	0.24%
Grifton (Pitt)	10	2,431	76,487	2,431	100.00%	3.18%
Grimesland	24	441	75,539	441	100.00%	0.58%
Grover	111	708	76,148	708	100.00%	0.93%
Halifax	27	234	76,790	234	100.00%	0.30%
Hamilton	23	408	81,057	408	100.00%	0.50%

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Printed 08/24/2017 {rptG03|dc2017HS|re1.3.1}

Page 6 of 16

HSA-1 Jackson Covington Plaintiffs Proposed House Plan: Municipality-District

Municipality	District	Total Muni Pop	Total District Pop	Muni Pop in District	Percent of Muni Pop in District	Percent of District Pop in Muni
Hamlet	66	6,495	81,734	6,495	100.00%	7.95%
Harmony	84	531	77,282	531	100.00%	0.69%
Harrells (Duplin)	4	23	76,858	23	100.00%	0.03%
Harrells (Sampson)	22	179	83,428	179	100.00%	0.21%
Harrellsville	5	106	77,527	106	100.00%	0.14%
Harrisburg	82	11,526	81,563	11,526	100.00%	14.13%
Hassell	23	84	81,057	84	100.00%	0.10%
Havelock	12	20,735	75,720	20,735	100.00%	27.38%
Haw River	63	2,298	75,550	2,254	98.09%	2.98%
	64	2,298	75,581	44	1.91%	0.06%
Hayesville	120	311	80,814	311	100.00%	0.38%
Hemby Bridge	69	1,520	76,381	1,520	100.00%	1.99%
Henderson	32	15,368	82,883	15,368	100.00%	18.54%
Hendersonville	113	13,137	81,089	514	3.91%	0.63%
	117	13,137	79,251	12,623	96.09%	15.93%
Hertford	3	2,143	77,143	2,143	100.00%	2.78%
Hickory (Burke)	86	66	79,175	66	100.00%	0.08%
Hickory (Caldwell)	87	18	83,029	18	100.00%	0.02%
Hickory (Catawba)	89	39,926	77,838	5,448	13.65%	7.00%
	96	39,926	76,520	34,478	86.35%	45.06%
High Point (Davidson)	80	5,310	81,522	5,310	100.00%	6.51%
High Point (Forsyth)	71	8	78,227	8	100.00%	0.01%
High Point (Guilford)	60	99,042	82,909	51,123	51.62%	61.66%
	61	99,042	81,135	39,284	39.66%	48.42%
	62	99,042	82,041	8,635	8.72%	10.53%
High Point (Randolph)	70	11	76,125	11	100.00%	0.01%
High Shoals	110	696	75,573	696	100.00%	0.92%
Highlands (Jackson)	119	4	75,548	4	100.00%	0.01%
Highlands (Macon)	120	920	80,814	920	100.00%	1.14%
Hildebran	86	2,023	79,175	2,023	100.00%	2.56%
Hillsborough	50	6,087	79,107	6,087	100.00%	7.69%
Hobgood	27	348	76,790	348	100.00%	0.45%
Hoffman	66	588	81,734	588	100.00%	0.72%
Holden Beach	17	575	77,263	575	100.00%	0.74%
Holly Ridge	15	1,268	82,923	1,268	100.00%	1.53%
Holly Springs	36	24,661	83,373	3,277	13.29%	3.93%
	37	24,661	83,318	21,382	86.70%	25.66%
	41	24,661	82,866	2	0.01%	0.00%
Hookerton	21	409	83,434	409	100.00%	0.49%
Hope Mills	44	15,176	79,644	0	0.00%	0.00%
	45	15,176	83,128	15,176	100.00%	18.26%
Hot Springs	118	560	76,322	560	100.00%	0.73%
Hudson	87	3,776	83,029	3,776	100.00%	4.55%
Huntersville	98	46,773	76,218	17,864	38.19%	23.44%
	107	46,773	78,268	28,909	61.81%	36.94%
Indian Beach	13	112	76,622	112	100.00%	0.15%
Indian Trail	55	33,518	75,792	51	0.15%	0.07%

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Printed 08/24/2017 {rptG03|dc2017HS|re1.3.1}

Page 7 of 16

HSA-1 Jackson Covington Plaintiffs Proposed House Plan: Municipality-District

Municipality	District	Total Muni Pop	Total District Pop	Muni Pop in District	Percent of Muni Pop in District	Percent of District Pop in Muni
Indian Trail	68	33,518	76,067	7,845	23.41%	10.31%
	69	33,518	76,381	25,622	76.44%	33.54%
Jackson	27	513	76,790	513	100.00%	0.67%
Jacksonville	14	70,145	76,496	38,937	55.51%	50.90%
	15	70,145	82,923	31,208	44.49%	37.63%
Jamestown	60	3,382	82,909	4	0.12%	0.00%
	61	3,382	81,135	3,378	99.88%	4.16%
Jamesville	23	491	81,057	491	100.00%	0.61%
Jefferson	93	1,611	78,360	1,611	100.00%	2.06%
Jonesville	73	2,285	77,321	2,285	100.00%	2.96%
Kannapolis (Cabarrus)	67	33,194	81,314	765	2.30%	0.94%
	83	33,194	82,975	32,429	97.70%	39.08%
Kannapolis (Rowan)	79	9,431	82,213	9,431	100.00%	11.47%
Kelford	3	251	77,143	251	100.00%	0.33%
Kenansville	4	855	76,858	855	100.00%	1.11%
Kenly (Johnston)	76	1,176	83,435	1,176	100.00%	1.41%
Kenly (Wilson)	8	163	81,234	163	100.00%	0.20%
Kernersville (Forsyth)	71	23,071	78,227	11,125	48.22%	14.22%
	72	23,071	81,553	11,946	51.78%	14.65%
Kernersville (Guilford)	62	52	82,041	52	100.00%	0.06%
Kill Devil Hills	1	6,683	76,421	6,683	100.00%	8.74%
King (Forsyth)	74	619	76,092	619	100.00%	0.81%
King (Stokes)	91	6,285	82,879	6,285	100.00%	7.58%
Kings Mountain (Cleveland)	110	9,242	75,573	0	0.00%	0.00%
	111	9,242	76,148	9,242	100.00%	12.14%
Kings Mountain (Gaston)	110	1,054	75,573	1,054	100.00%	1.39%
Kingstown	111	681	76,148	681	100.00%	0.89%
Kinston	10	21,677	76,487	21,677	100.00%	28.34%
Kittrell	32	467	82,883	467	100.00%	0.56%
Kitty Hawk	1	3,272	76,421	3,272	100.00%	4.28%
Knightdale	39	11,401	83,299	11,401	100.00%	13.69%
Kure Beach	19	2,012	76,666	2,012	100.00%	2.62%
La Grange	10	2,873	76,487	2,873	100.00%	3.76%
Lake Lure	112	1,192	79,547	1,192	100.00%	1.50%
Lake Park	69	3,422	76,381	3,422	100.00%	4.48%
Lake Santeetlah	120	45	80,814	45	100.00%	0.06%
Lake Waccamaw	16	1,480	82,422	1,480	100.00%	1.80%
Landis	79	3,109	82,213	3,109	100.00%	3.78%
Lansing	93	158	78,360	158	100.00%	0.20%
Lasker	27	122	76,790	122	100.00%	0.16%
Lattimore	111	488	76,148	488	100.00%	0.64%
Laurel Park	113	2,180	81,089	2	0.09%	0.00%
	117	2,180	79,251	2,178	99.91%	2.75%
Laurinburg	48	15,962	83,109	15,962	100.00%	19.21%
Lawndale	111	606	76,148	606	100.00%	0.80%
Leggett	23	60	81,057	60	100.00%	0.07%
Leland	17	13,527	77,263	2,631	19.45%	3.41%

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Printed 08/24/2017 {rptG03|dc2017HS|re1.3.1}

Page 8 of 16

HSA-1 Jackson Covington Plaintiffs Proposed House Plan: Municipality-District

Municipality	District	Total Muni Pop	Total District Pop	Muni Pop in District	Percent of Muni Pop in District	Percent of District Pop in Muni
Leland	18	13,527	77,681	10,896	80.55%	14.03%
Lenoir	87	18,228	83,029	18,228	100.00%	21.95%
Lewiston Woodville	3	549	77,143	549	100.00%	0.71%
Lewisville	73	12,639	77,321	7,043	55.72%	9.11%
	74	12,639	76,092	5,596	44.28%	7.35%
Lexington	80	18,931	81,522	0	0.00%	0.00%
	81	18,931	81,356	18,931	100.00%	23.27%
Liberty	78	2,656	76,980	2,656	100.00%	3.45%
Lilesville	55	536	75,792	536	100.00%	0.71%
Lillington	51	3,194	83,434	0	0.00%	0.00%
	53	3,194	83,434	3,194	100.00%	3.83%
Lincolnton	97	10,486	78,265	10,486	100.00%	13.40%
Linden	42	130	79,902	130	100.00%	0.16%
Littleton	27	674	76,790	674	100.00%	0.88%
Locust (Cabarrus)	82	215	81,563	215	100.00%	0.26%
Locust (Stanly)	67	2,715	81,314	2,715	100.00%	3.34%
Long View (Burke)	86	752	79,175	752	100.00%	0.95%
Long View (Catawba)	96	4,119	76,520	4,119	100.00%	5.38%
Louisburg	7	3,359	78,068	3,359	100.00%	4.30%
Love Valley	84	90	77,282	90	100.00%	0.12%
Lowell	108	3,526	76,926	3,526	100.00%	4.58%
Lucama	8	1,108	81,234	1,108	100.00%	1.36%
Lumber Bridge	47	94	80,418	94	100.00%	0.12%
Lumberton	46	21,542	81,643	17,744	82.37%	21.73%
	47	21,542	80,418	3,798	17.63%	4.72%
Macclesfield	23	471	81,057	471	100.00%	0.58%
Macon	32	119	82,883	119	100.00%	0.14%
Madison	91	2,246	82,879	2,246	100.00%	2.71%
Maggie Valley	118	1,150	76,322	1,039	90.35%	1.36%
	119	1,150	75,548	111	9.65%	0.15%
Magnolia	4	939	76,858	939	100.00%	1.22%
Maiden (Catawba)	89	3,308	77,838	3,308	100.00%	4.25%
Maiden (Lincoln)	97	2	78,265	2	100.00%	0.00%
Manteo	1	1,434	76,421	1,434	100.00%	1.88%
Marietta	46	175	81,643	175	100.00%	0.21%
Marion	85	7,838	78,372	7,838	100.00%	10.00%
Mars Hill	118	1,869	76,322	1,869	100.00%	2.45%
Marshall	118	872	76,322	872	100.00%	1.14%
Marshville	55	2,402	75,792	2,402	100.00%	3.17%
Marvin	68	5,579	76,067	5,579	100.00%	7.33%
Matthews	103	27,198	76,107	14,200	52.21%	18.66%
	104	27,198	77,637	12,998	47.79%	16.74%
Maxton (Robeson)	47	2,230	80,418	2,230	100.00%	2.77%
Maxton (Scotland)	48	196	83,109	196	100.00%	0.24%
Mayodan	91	2,478	82,879	2,478	100.00%	2.99%
Maysville	13	1,019	76,622	1,019	100.00%	1.33%
McAdenville	108	651	76,926	651	100.00%	0.85%

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Printed 08/24/2017 {rptG03|dc2017HS|re1.3.1}

Page 9 of 16

HSA-1 Jackson Covington Plaintiffs Proposed House Plan: Municipality-District

Municipality	District	Total Muni Pop	Total District Pop	Muni Pop in District	Percent of Muni Pop in District	Percent of District Pop in Muni
McDonald	47	113	80,418	113	100.00%	0.14%
McFarlan	55	117	75,792	117	100.00%	0.15%
Mebane (Alamance)	63	9,600	75,550	9,600	100.00%	12.71%
Mebane (Orange)	50	1,793	79,107	1,793	100.00%	2.27%
Mesic	1	220	76,421	220	100.00%	0.29%
Micro	76	441	83,435	441	100.00%	0.53%
Middleburg	32	133	82,883	133	100.00%	0.16%
Middlesex	25	822	78,391	822	100.00%	1.05%
Midland (Cabarrus)	82	3,073	81,563	3,073	100.00%	3.77%
Midland (Mecklenburg)	100	0	77,928	0	0.00%	0.00%
Midway	80	4,679	81,522	3,504	74.89%	4.30%
	81	4,679	81,356	1,175	25.11%	1.44%
Mills River	113	6,802	81,089	300	4.41%	0.37%
	117	6,802	79,251	6,502	95.59%	8.20%
Milton	50	166	79,107	166	100.00%	0.21%
Mineral Springs	55	2,639	75,792	688	26.07%	0.91%
	68	2,639	76,067	1,951	73.93%	2.56%
Minnesott Beach	1	440	76,421	440	100.00%	0.58%
Mint Hill (Mecklenburg)	100	22,669	77,928	10,504	46.34%	13.48%
	103	22,669	76,107	12,165	53.66%	15.98%
Mint Hill (Union)	69	53	76,381	53	100.00%	0.07%
Misenheimer	67	728	81,314	728	100.00%	0.90%
Mocksville	79	5,051	82,213	5,051	100.00%	6.14%
Momeyer	25	224	78,391	224	100.00%	0.29%
Monroe	55	32,797	75,792	3,133	9.55%	4.13%
	68	32,797	76,067	13,278	40.49%	17.46%
	69	32,797	76,381	16,386	49.96%	21.45%
Montreat	115	723	79,883	723	100.00%	0.91%
Mooreboro	111	311	76,148	311	100.00%	0.41%
Mooreville	95	32,711	82,155	32,711	100.00%	39.82%
Morehead City	13	8,661	76,622	8,661	100.00%	11.30%
Morganton	86	16,918	79,175	16,918	100.00%	21.37%
Morrisville (Durham)	31	0	82,791	0	0.00%	0.00%
Morrisville (Wake)	40	18,576	76,609	7,728	41.60%	10.09%
	41	18,576	82,866	10,848	58.40%	13.09%
Morven	55	511	75,792	511	100.00%	0.67%
Mount Airy	90	10,388	82,702	10,388	100.00%	12.56%
Mount Gilead	66	1,181	81,734	1,181	100.00%	1.44%
Mount Holly	108	13,656	76,926	13,656	100.00%	17.75%
Mount Olive (Duplin)	4	51	76,858	51	100.00%	0.07%
Mount Olive (Wayne)	76	4,538	83,435	4,538	100.00%	5.44%
Mount Pleasant	67	1,652	81,314	1,652	100.00%	2.03%
	82	1,652	81,563	0	0.00%	0.00%
Murfreesboro	5	2,835	77,527	2,835	100.00%	3.66%
Murphy	120	1,627	80,814	1,627	100.00%	2.01%
Nags Head	1	2,757	76,421	2,757	100.00%	3.61%
Nashville	25	5,352	78,391	5,352	100.00%	6.83%

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Printed 08/24/2017 {rptG03|dc2017HS|re1.3.1}

Page 10 of 16

HSA-1 Jackson Covington Plaintiffs Proposed House Plan: Municipality-District

Municipality	District	Total Muni Pop	Total District Pop	Muni Pop in District	Percent of Muni Pop in District	Percent of District Pop in Muni
Navassa	18	1,505	77,681	1,505	100.00%	1.94%
New Bern	6	29,524	75,544	20,526	69.52%	27.17%
	12	29,524	75,720	8,998	30.48%	11.88%
New London	67	600	81,314	600	100.00%	0.74%
Newland	85	698	78,372	698	100.00%	0.89%
Newport	13	4,150	76,622	4,150	100.00%	5.42%
Newton	89	12,968	77,838	12,968	100.00%	16.66%
	96	12,968	76,520	0	0.00%	0.00%
Newton Grove	28	569	83,429	569	100.00%	0.68%
Norlina	32	1,118	82,883	1,118	100.00%	1.35%
Norman	66	138	81,734	138	100.00%	0.17%
North Topsail Beach	15	743	82,923	743	100.00%	0.90%
North Wilkesboro	90	4,245	82,702	5	0.12%	0.01%
	94	4,245	83,435	4,240	99.88%	5.08%
Northwest	18	735	77,681	735	100.00%	0.95%
Norwood	67	2,379	81,314	2,379	100.00%	2.93%
Oak City	23	317	81,057	317	100.00%	0.39%
Oak Island	17	6,783	77,263	6,783	100.00%	8.78%
Oak Ridge	62	6,185	82,041	6,185	100.00%	7.54%
Oakboro	67	1,859	81,314	1,859	100.00%	2.29%
Ocean Isle Beach	17	550	77,263	550	100.00%	0.71%
Old Fort	85	908	78,372	908	100.00%	1.16%
Oriental	1	900	76,421	900	100.00%	1.18%
Orrum	46	91	81,643	91	100.00%	0.11%
Ossipee	64	543	75,581	543	100.00%	0.72%
Oxford	2	8,461	82,891	8,206	96.99%	9.90%
	32	8,461	82,883	255	3.01%	0.31%
Pantego	6	179	75,544	179	100.00%	0.24%
Parkton	47	436	80,418	436	100.00%	0.54%
Parmelee	23	278	81,057	278	100.00%	0.34%
Patterson Springs	111	622	76,148	622	100.00%	0.82%
Peachland	55	437	75,792	437	100.00%	0.58%
Peletier	13	644	76,622	644	100.00%	0.84%
Pembroke	47	2,973	80,418	2,973	100.00%	3.70%
Pikeville	76	678	83,435	678	100.00%	0.81%
Pilot Mountain	91	1,477	82,879	1,477	100.00%	1.78%
Pine Knoll Shores	13	1,339	76,622	1,339	100.00%	1.75%
Pine Level	28	1,700	83,429	1,700	100.00%	2.04%
Pinebluff	52	1,337	76,894	1,337	100.00%	1.74%
Pinehurst	52	13,124	76,894	13,124	100.00%	17.07%
Pinetops	23	1,374	81,057	1,374	100.00%	1.70%
Pineville	92	7,479	77,927	479	6.40%	0.61%
	105	7,479	75,712	7,000	93.60%	9.25%
Pink Hill	10	552	76,487	552	100.00%	0.72%
Pittsboro	54	3,743	82,312	3,743	100.00%	4.55%
Pleasant Garden	58	4,489	77,567	4,489	100.00%	5.79%
	60	4,489	82,909	0	0.00%	0.00%

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Printed 08/24/2017 {rptG03|dc2017HS|re1.3.1}

Page 11 of 16

HSA-1 Jackson Covington Plaintiffs Proposed House Plan: Municipality-District

Municipality	District	Total Muni Pop	Total District Pop	Muni Pop in District	Percent of Muni Pop in District	Percent of District Pop in Muni
Plymouth	3	3,878	77,143	3,878	100.00%	5.03%
Polkton	55	3,375	75,792	3,375	100.00%	4.45%
Polkville	111	545	76,148	545	100.00%	0.72%
Pollocksville	13	311	76,622	311	100.00%	0.41%
Powellsville	3	276	77,143	276	100.00%	0.36%
Princeton	28	1,194	83,429	330	27.64%	0.40%
	76	1,194	83,435	864	72.36%	1.04%
Princeville	23	2,082	81,057	2,082	100.00%	2.57%
Proctorville	46	117	81,643	117	100.00%	0.14%
Raeford	48	4,611	83,109	4,611	100.00%	5.55%
Raleigh (Durham)	31	1,067	82,791	1,067	100.00%	1.29%
Raleigh (Wake)	11	402,825	82,422	52,449	13.02%	63.63%
	33	402,825	83,261	39,351	9.77%	47.26%
	34	402,825	79,853	70,378	17.47%	88.13%
	35	402,825	82,809	50,715	12.59%	61.24%
	38	402,825	81,715	78,960	19.60%	96.63%
	39	402,825	83,299	17,986	4.46%	21.59%
	40	402,825	76,609	29,498	7.32%	38.50%
	49	402,825	81,468	63,488	15.76%	77.93%
Ramseur	78	1,692	76,980	1,692	100.00%	2.20%
Randleman	70	4,113	76,125	4,113	100.00%	5.40%
Ranlo	108	3,434	76,926	3,434	100.00%	4.46%
	110	3,434	75,573	0	0.00%	0.00%
Raynham	47	72	80,418	72	100.00%	0.09%
Red Cross	67	742	81,314	742	100.00%	0.91%
Red Oak	7	3,430	78,068	19	0.55%	0.02%
	25	3,430	78,391	3,411	99.45%	4.35%
Red Springs (Hoke)	48	0	83,109	0	0.00%	0.00%
Red Springs (Robeson)	47	3,428	80,418	3,428	100.00%	4.26%
Reidsville	65	14,520	83,394	14,520	100.00%	17.41%
Rennert	47	383	80,418	383	100.00%	0.48%
Rhodhiss (Burke)	86	700	79,175	700	100.00%	0.88%
Rhodhiss (Caldwell)	87	370	83,029	370	100.00%	0.45%
Rich Square	27	958	76,790	958	100.00%	1.25%
Richfield	67	613	81,314	613	100.00%	0.75%
Richlands	4	1,520	76,858	1,520	100.00%	1.98%
River Bend	12	3,119	75,720	3,119	100.00%	4.12%
Roanoke Rapids	27	15,754	76,790	15,754	100.00%	20.52%
Robbins	52	1,097	76,894	1,097	100.00%	1.43%
	78	1,097	76,980	0	0.00%	0.00%
Robbinsville	120	620	80,814	620	100.00%	0.77%
Robersonville	23	1,488	81,057	1,488	100.00%	1.84%
Rockingham	66	9,558	81,734	9,558	100.00%	11.69%
Rockwell	67	2,108	81,314	2,108	100.00%	2.59%
Rocky Mount (Edgecombe)	23	17,524	81,057	17,524	100.00%	21.62%
Rocky Mount (Nash)	7	39,953	78,068	8,928	22.35%	11.44%
	25	39,953	78,391	31,025	77.65%	39.58%

District plan definition file: 'HSA-1.asc', modified 08/24/2017 01:38:00 PM

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Printed 08/24/2017 {rptG03|dc2017HS|re1.3.1}

Page 12 of 16

HSA-1 Jackson Covington Plaintiffs Proposed House Plan: Municipality-District

Municipality	District	Total Muni Pop	Total District Pop	Muni Pop in District	Percent of Muni Pop in District	Percent of District Pop in Muni
Rolesville	35	3,786	82,809	1,404	37.08%	1.70%
	39	3,786	83,299	2,382	62.92%	2.86%
Ronda	90	417	82,702	417	100.00%	0.50%
Roper	3	611	77,143	611	100.00%	0.79%
Rose Hill	4	1,626	76,858	1,626	100.00%	2.12%
Roseboro	22	1,191	83,428	1,191	100.00%	1.43%
Rosman	113	576	81,089	576	100.00%	0.71%
Rowland	47	1,037	80,418	1,037	100.00%	1.29%
Roxboro	2	8,362	82,891	8,362	100.00%	10.09%
Roxobel	3	240	77,143	240	100.00%	0.31%
Rural Hall	74	2,937	76,092	2,937	100.00%	3.86%
Ruth	112	440	79,547	440	100.00%	0.55%
Rutherford College	86	1,341	79,175	1,341	100.00%	1.69%
Rutherfordton	112	4,213	79,547	4,213	100.00%	5.30%
Salemburg	22	435	83,428	435	100.00%	0.52%
Salisbury	77	33,662	82,902	33,662	100.00%	40.60%
Saluda (Henderson)	113	12	81,089	12	100.00%	0.01%
Saluda (Polk)	113	701	81,089	701	100.00%	0.86%
Sandy Creek	18	260	77,681	260	100.00%	0.33%
Sandyfield	16	447	82,422	447	100.00%	0.54%
Sanford	51	28,094	83,434	28,094	100.00%	33.67%
Saratoga	8	408	81,234	408	100.00%	0.50%
Sawmills	87	5,240	83,029	5,240	100.00%	6.31%
Scotland Neck	27	2,059	76,790	2,059	100.00%	2.68%
Seaboard	27	632	76,790	632	100.00%	0.82%
Seagrove	78	228	76,980	228	100.00%	0.30%
Sedalia	58	623	77,567	623	100.00%	0.80%
Selma	28	6,073	83,429	6,073	100.00%	7.28%
Seven Devils (Avery)	85	28	78,372	28	100.00%	0.04%
Seven Devils (Watauga)	93	164	78,360	164	100.00%	0.21%
Seven Springs	76	110	83,435	110	100.00%	0.13%
Severn	27	276	76,790	276	100.00%	0.36%
Shallotte	17	3,675	77,263	3,675	100.00%	4.76%
Sharpsburg (Edgecombe)	23	209	81,057	209	100.00%	0.26%
Sharpsburg (Nash)	25	1,252	78,391	1,252	100.00%	1.60%
Sharpsburg (Wilson)	8	563	81,234	563	100.00%	0.69%
Shelby	110	20,323	75,573	11,240	55.31%	14.87%
	111	20,323	76,148	9,083	44.69%	11.93%
Siler City	54	7,887	82,312	7,887	100.00%	9.58%
Simpson	24	416	75,539	416	100.00%	0.55%
Sims	8	282	81,234	282	100.00%	0.35%
Smithfield	28	10,966	83,429	10,966	100.00%	13.14%
Snow Hill	21	1,595	83,434	1,595	100.00%	1.91%
Southern Pines	52	12,334	76,894	12,334	100.00%	16.04%
Southern Shores	1	2,714	76,421	2,714	100.00%	3.55%
Southport	17	2,833	77,263	2,833	100.00%	3.67%
Sparta	90	1,770	82,702	1,770	100.00%	2.14%

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Printed 08/24/2017 {rptG03|dc2017HS|re1.3.1}

Page 13 of 16

HSA-1 Jackson Covington Plaintiffs Proposed House Plan: Municipality-District

Municipality	District	Total Muni Pop	Total District Pop	Muni Pop in District	Percent of Muni Pop in District	Percent of District Pop in Muni
Speed	23	80	81,057	80	100.00%	0.10%
Spencer	77	3,267	82,902	3,267	100.00%	3.94%
Spencer Mountain	108	37	76,926	37	100.00%	0.05%
Spindale	112	4,321	79,547	4,321	100.00%	5.43%
Spring Hope	25	1,320	78,391	1,320	100.00%	1.68%
Spring Lake	42	11,964	79,902	11,964	100.00%	14.97%
Spruce Pine	85	2,175	78,372	2,175	100.00%	2.78%
St. Helena	16	389	82,422	389	100.00%	0.47%
St. James	17	3,165	77,263	3,165	100.00%	4.10%
St. Pauls	47	2,035	80,418	2,035	100.00%	2.53%
Staley	78	393	76,980	393	100.00%	0.51%
Stallings (Mecklenburg)	103	399	76,107	399	100.00%	0.52%
Stallings (Union)	68	13,432	76,067	0	0.00%	0.00%
	69	13,432	76,381	13,432	100.00%	17.59%
Stanfield	67	1,486	81,314	1,486	100.00%	1.83%
Stanley	108	3,556	76,926	3,550	99.83%	4.61%
	110	3,556	75,573	6	0.17%	0.01%
Stantonsburg	8	784	81,234	784	100.00%	0.97%
Star	66	876	81,734	876	100.00%	1.07%
Statesville	84	24,532	77,282	20,541	83.73%	26.58%
	95	24,532	82,155	3,991	16.27%	4.86%
Stedman	43	1,028	76,757	1,028	100.00%	1.34%
Stem	2	463	82,891	463	100.00%	0.56%
Stokesdale	62	5,047	82,041	5,047	100.00%	6.15%
Stoneville	65	1,056	83,394	1,056	100.00%	1.27%
Stonewall	1	281	76,421	281	100.00%	0.37%
Stovall	2	418	82,891	418	100.00%	0.50%
Sugar Mountain	85	198	78,372	198	100.00%	0.25%
Summerfield	59	10,232	81,528	2,422	23.67%	2.97%
	62	10,232	82,041	7,810	76.33%	9.52%
Sunset Beach	17	3,572	77,263	3,572	100.00%	4.62%
Surf City (Onslow)	15	292	82,923	292	100.00%	0.35%
Surf City (Pender)	16	1,561	82,422	1,561	100.00%	1.89%
Swansboro	15	2,663	82,923	2,663	100.00%	3.21%
Swepsonville	63	1,154	75,550	1,154	100.00%	1.53%
Sylva	119	2,588	75,548	2,588	100.00%	3.43%
Tabor City	16	2,511	82,422	2,511	100.00%	3.05%
Tar Heel	22	117	83,428	117	100.00%	0.14%
Tarboro	23	11,415	81,057	11,415	100.00%	14.08%
Taylorsville	94	2,098	83,435	2,098	100.00%	2.51%
Taylortown	52	722	76,894	722	100.00%	0.94%
Teachey	4	376	76,858	376	100.00%	0.49%
Thomasville (Davidson)	80	26,493	81,522	25,474	96.15%	31.25%
	81	26,493	81,356	1,019	3.85%	1.25%
Thomasville (Randolph)	70	264	76,125	264	100.00%	0.35%
Tobaccoville (Forsyth)	74	2,441	76,092	2,441	100.00%	3.21%
Tobaccoville (Stokes)	91	0	82,879	0	0.00%	0.00%

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Printed 08/24/2017 {rptG03|dc2017HS|re1.3.1}

Page 14 of 16

HSA-1 Jackson Covington Plaintiffs Proposed House Plan: Municipality-District

Municipality	District	Total Muni Pop	Total District Pop	Muni Pop in District	Percent of Muni Pop in District	Percent of District Pop in Muni
Topsail Beach	16	368	82,422	368	100.00%	0.45%
Trent Woods	12	4,155	75,720	4,155	100.00%	5.49%
Trenton	13	287	76,622	287	100.00%	0.37%
Trinity	70	6,614	76,125	6,614	100.00%	8.69%
Troutman	84	2,383	77,282	2,169	91.02%	2.81%
	95	2,383	82,155	214	8.98%	0.26%
Troy	66	3,189	81,734	3,189	100.00%	3.90%
Tryon	113	1,646	81,089	1,646	100.00%	2.03%
Turkey	22	292	83,428	292	100.00%	0.35%
Unionville	55	5,929	75,792	337	5.68%	0.44%
	69	5,929	76,381	5,592	94.32%	7.32%
Valdese	86	4,490	79,175	4,490	100.00%	5.67%
Vanceboro	12	1,005	75,720	1,005	100.00%	1.33%
Vandemere	1	254	76,421	254	100.00%	0.33%
Varnamtown	17	541	77,263	541	100.00%	0.70%
Vass	52	720	76,894	720	100.00%	0.94%
Waco	110	321	75,573	321	100.00%	0.42%
Wade	43	556	76,757	556	100.00%	0.72%
Wadesboro	55	5,813	75,792	5,813	100.00%	7.67%
Wagram	48	840	83,109	840	100.00%	1.01%
Wake Forest (Franklin)	7	899	78,068	899	100.00%	1.15%
Wake Forest (Wake)	35	29,218	82,809	23,128	79.16%	27.93%
	40	29,218	76,609	6,090	20.84%	7.95%
Walkertown	72	4,675	81,553	4,675	100.00%	5.73%
Wallace (Duplin)	4	3,880	76,858	3,880	100.00%	5.05%
Wallace (Pender)	16	0	82,422	0	0.00%	0.00%
Wallburg	80	3,047	81,522	3,047	100.00%	3.74%
Walnut Cove	91	1,425	82,879	1,425	100.00%	1.72%
Walnut Creek	76	835	83,435	835	100.00%	1.00%
Walstonburg	21	219	83,434	219	100.00%	0.26%
Warrenton	32	862	82,883	862	100.00%	1.04%
Warsaw	4	3,054	76,858	3,054	100.00%	3.97%
Washington	6	9,744	75,544	9,744	100.00%	12.90%
Washington Park	6	451	75,544	451	100.00%	0.60%
Watha	16	190	82,422	190	100.00%	0.23%
Waxhaw	55	9,859	75,792	1,604	16.27%	2.12%
	68	9,859	76,067	8,255	83.73%	10.85%
Waynesville	119	9,869	75,548	9,869	100.00%	13.06%
Weaverville	115	3,120	79,883	3,120	100.00%	3.91%
Webster	119	363	75,548	363	100.00%	0.48%
Weddington (Mecklenburg)	105	7	75,712	7	100.00%	0.01%
Weddington (Union)	68	9,452	76,067	8,933	94.51%	11.74%
	69	9,452	76,381	519	5.49%	0.68%
Weldon	27	1,655	76,790	1,655	100.00%	2.16%
Wendell	39	5,845	83,299	5,845	100.00%	7.02%
Wentworth	65	2,807	83,394	2,807	100.00%	3.37%
Wesley Chapel	68	7,463	76,067	6,877	92.15%	9.04%

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Printed 08/24/2017 {rptG03|dc2017HS|re1.3.1}

Page 15 of 16

HSA-1 Jackson Covington Plaintiffs Proposed House Plan: Municipality-District

Municipality	District	Total Muni Pop	Total District Pop	Muni Pop in District	Percent of Muni Pop in District	Percent of District Pop in Muni
Wesley Chapel	69	7,463	76,381	586	7.85%	0.77%
West Jefferson	93	1,299	78,360	1,299	100.00%	1.66%
Whispering Pines	52	2,928	76,894	2,928	100.00%	3.81%
Whitakers (Edgecombe)	23	402	81,057	402	100.00%	0.50%
Whitakers (Nash)	7	342	78,068	342	100.00%	0.44%
White Lake	22	802	83,428	802	100.00%	0.96%
Whiteville	46	5,394	81,643	5,394	100.00%	6.61%
Whitsett	58	590	77,567	590	100.00%	0.76%
Wilkesboro	94	3,413	83,435	3,413	100.00%	4.09%
Williamston	23	5,511	81,057	5,511	100.00%	6.80%
Wilmington	18	106,476	77,681	41,563	39.04%	53.50%
	19	106,476	76,666	33,947	31.88%	44.28%
	20	106,476	78,488	30,966	29.08%	39.45%
Wilson	8	49,167	81,234	49,167	100.00%	60.53%
Wilson's Mills	26	2,277	83,434	0	0.00%	0.00%
	28	2,277	83,429	2,277	100.00%	2.73%
Windsor	3	3,630	77,143	3,630	100.00%	4.71%
Winfall	3	594	77,143	594	100.00%	0.77%
Wingate	55	3,491	75,792	349	10.00%	0.46%
	69	3,491	76,381	3,142	90.00%	4.11%
Winston-Salem	71	229,617	78,227	56,243	24.49%	71.90%
	72	229,617	81,553	42,279	18.41%	51.84%
	73	229,617	77,321	6,281	2.74%	8.12%
	74	229,617	76,092	51,264	22.33%	67.37%
	75	229,617	75,883	73,550	32.03%	96.93%
Winterville	9	9,269	75,617	6,172	66.59%	8.16%
	10	9,269	76,487	2,219	23.94%	2.90%
	24	9,269	75,539	878	9.47%	1.16%
Winton	5	769	77,527	769	100.00%	0.99%
Woodfin	114	6,123	82,902	2,563	41.86%	3.09%
	115	6,123	79,883	2,717	44.37%	3.40%
	116	6,123	75,533	843	13.77%	1.12%
Woodland	27	809	76,790	809	100.00%	1.05%
Wrightsville Beach	19	2,477	76,666	2,477	100.00%	3.23%
	20	2,477	78,488	0	0.00%	0.00%
Yadkinville	73	2,959	77,321	2,959	100.00%	3.83%
Yanceyville	50	2,039	79,107	2,039	100.00%	2.58%
Youngsville	7	1,157	78,068	1,157	100.00%	1.48%
Zebulon (Johnston)	76	0	83,435	0	0.00%	0.00%
Zebulon (Wake)	39	4,433	83,299	4,433	100.00%	5.32%
Total:				5,250,071		

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Printed 08/24/2017 {rptG03|dc2017HS|re1.3.1}

Page 16 of 16

Plan Name: HSA-1
Plan Type:
Date: 08/24/2017
Time: 01:35:55PM
Administrator:

Measures of Compactness

08/24/2017

Sum	N/A	N/A
Min	0.20	0.13
Max	0.70	0.71
Mean	0.42	0.33
Std. Dev.	0.10	0.11

DISTRICT	Reock	Polsby-Popper
1	0.33	0.24
2	0.52	0.43
3	0.49	0.18
4	0.48	0.49
5	0.25	0.27
6	0.52	0.30
7	0.37	0.28
8	0.53	0.71
9	0.44	0.28
10	0.39	0.32
11	0.31	0.29
12	0.29	0.19
13	0.24	0.22
14	0.40	0.30
15	0.56	0.58
16	0.28	0.22
17	0.48	0.30
18	0.51	0.33
19	0.20	0.28
20	0.36	0.20
21	0.47	0.32
22	0.50	0.26
23	0.35	0.24
24	0.51	0.24
25	0.49	0.50
26	0.40	0.44
27	0.52	0.40
28	0.50	0.25
29	0.43	0.46
30	0.33	0.35
31	0.33	0.27
32	0.37	0.36
33	0.55	0.37
34	0.39	0.26
35	0.34	0.37
36	0.37	0.34
37	0.34	0.22
38	0.52	0.32
39	0.57	0.57
40	0.28	0.24

Plan Name:	HSA-1	Administrator:	
Plan Type:		User:	

DISTRICT	Reock	Polsby-Popper
41	0.28	0.25
42	0.30	0.32
43	0.39	0.25
44	0.39	0.25
45	0.29	0.26
46	0.53	0.25
47	0.53	0.30
48	0.48	0.45
49	0.38	0.27
50	0.37	0.39
51	0.60	0.38
52	0.32	0.25
53	0.51	0.35
54	0.45	0.43
55	0.42	0.29
56	0.36	0.41
57	0.48	0.39
58	0.64	0.56
59	0.49	0.36
60	0.40	0.33
61	0.30	0.21
62	0.52	0.44
63	0.34	0.30
64	0.34	0.28
65	0.52	0.44
66	0.39	0.30
67	0.52	0.27
68	0.33	0.28
69	0.37	0.20
70	0.54	0.54
71	0.39	0.40
72	0.52	0.49
73	0.42	0.40
74	0.54	0.53
75	0.70	0.60
76	0.29	0.18
77	0.60	0.41
78	0.36	0.28
79	0.37	0.31
80	0.28	0.22
81	0.50	0.22
82	0.59	0.62
83	0.53	0.51
84	0.51	0.45
85	0.39	0.23
86	0.38	0.27
87	0.50	0.57
88	0.34	0.30
89	0.34	0.26
90	0.41	0.27
91	0.32	0.30
92	0.48	0.36
93	0.57	0.42
94	0.53	0.33
95	0.43	0.37
96	0.30	0.21

Plan Name:	HSA-1	Administrator:	
Plan Type:		User:	

DISTRICT	Reock	Polsby-Popper
97	0.33	0.52
98	0.38	0.30
99	0.46	0.33
100	0.42	0.42
101	0.41	0.32
102	0.27	0.27
103	0.39	0.47
104	0.36	0.27
105	0.37	0.30
106	0.38	0.32
107	0.27	0.23
108	0.44	0.32
109	0.46	0.47
110	0.36	0.26
111	0.40	0.28
112	0.39	0.30
113	0.24	0.21
114	0.39	0.13
115	0.38	0.19
116	0.35	0.23
117	0.40	0.28
118	0.36	0.15
119	0.36	0.20
120	0.40	0.37

HSA-1 Jackson Covington Plaintiffs Proposed House Plan: Population Deviation

	District	2010 Pop	Ideal Pop	Deviation	Deviation %
	1	76,421	79,462	-3,041	-3.83%
	2	82,891	79,462	3,429	4.32%
	3	77,143	79,462	-2,319	-2.92%
	4	76,858	79,462	-2,604	-3.28%
	5	77,527	79,462	-1,935	-2.44%
	6	75,544	79,462	-3,918	-4.93%
	7	78,068	79,462	-1,394	-1.75%
	8	81,234	79,462	1,772	2.23%
	9	75,617	79,462	-3,845	-4.84%
	10	76,487	79,462	-2,975	-3.74%
	11	82,422	79,462	2,960	3.73%
	12	75,720	79,462	-3,742	-4.71%
	13	76,622	79,462	-2,840	-3.57%
	14	76,496	79,462	-2,966	-3.73%
	15	82,923	79,462	3,461	4.36%
	16	82,422	79,462	2,960	3.73%
	17	77,263	79,462	-2,199	-2.77%
	18	77,681	79,462	-1,781	-2.24%
	19	76,666	79,462	-2,796	-3.52%
	20	78,488	79,462	-974	-1.23%
	21	83,434	79,462	3,972	5.00%
	22	83,428	79,462	3,966	4.99%
	23	81,057	79,462	1,595	2.01%
	24	75,539	79,462	-3,923	-4.94%
	25	78,391	79,462	-1,071	-1.35%
	26	83,434	79,462	3,972	5.00%
	27	76,790	79,462	-2,672	-3.36%
	28	83,429	79,462	3,967	4.99%
	29	82,725	79,462	3,263	4.11%
	30	83,264	79,462	3,802	4.78%
	31	82,791	79,462	3,329	4.19%
	32	82,883	79,462	3,421	4.31%
	33	83,261	79,462	3,799	4.78%
	34	79,853	79,462	391	0.49%
	35	82,809	79,462	3,347	4.21%
	36	83,373	79,462	3,911	4.92%
	37	83,318	79,462	3,856	4.85%
	38	81,715	79,462	2,253	2.84%
	39	83,299	79,462	3,837	4.83%
	40	76,609	79,462	-2,853	-3.59%
	41	82,866	79,462	3,404	4.28%
	42	79,902	79,462	440	0.55%
	43	76,757	79,462	-2,705	-3.40%
	44	79,644	79,462	182	0.23%
	45	83,128	79,462	3,666	4.61%
	46	81,643	79,462	2,181	2.74%
	47	80,418	79,462	956	1.20%
	48	83,109	79,462	3,647	4.59%
	49	81,468	79,462	2,006	2.52%
	50	79,107	79,462	-355	-0.45%
	51	83,434	79,462	3,972	5.00%
	52	76,894	79,462	-2,568	-3.23%
	53	83,434	79,462	3,972	5.00%
	54	82,312	79,462	2,850	3.59%
	55	75,792	79,462	-3,670	-4.62%
	56	78,413	79,462	-1,049	-1.32%
	57	83,226	79,462	3,764	4.74%
	58	77,567	79,462	-1,895	-2.38%
	59	81,528	79,462	2,066	2.60%
	60	82,909	79,462	3,447	4.34%
	61	81,135	79,462	1,673	2.11%
	62	82,041	79,462	2,579	3.25%
	63	75,550	79,462	-3,912	-4.92%
	64	75,581	79,462	-3,881	-4.88%
	65	83,394	79,462	3,932	4.95%
	66	81,734	79,462	2,272	2.86%
	67	81,314	79,462	1,852	2.33%
	68	76,067	79,462	-3,395	-4.27%
	69	76,381	79,462	-3,081	-3.88%
	70	76,125	79,462	-3,337	-4.20%
	71	78,227	79,462	-1,235	-1.55%
	72	81,553	79,462	2,091	2.63%
	73	77,321	79,462	-2,141	-2.69%
	74	76,092	79,462	-3,370	-4.24%
	75	75,883	79,462	-3,579	-4.50%
	76	83,435	79,462	3,973	5.00%
	77	82,902	79,462	3,440	4.33%
	78	76,980	79,462	-2,482	-3.12%
	79	82,213	79,462	2,751	3.46%
	80	81,522	79,462	2,060	2.59%
	81	81,356	79,462	1,894	2.38%
	82	81,563	79,462	2,101	2.64%

HSA-1 Jackson Covington Plaintiffs Proposed House Plan: Population Deviation

	District	2010 Pop	Ideal Pop	Deviation	Deviation %	
	83	82,975	79,462	3,513	4.42%	
	84	77,282	79,462	-2,180	-2.74%	
	85	78,372	79,462	-1,090	-1.37%	
	86	79,175	79,462	-287	-0.36%	
	87	83,029	79,462	3,567	4.49%	
	88	75,500	79,462	-3,962	-4.99%	
	89	77,838	79,462	-1,624	-2.04%	
	90	82,702	79,462	3,240	4.08%	
	91	82,879	79,462	3,417	4.30%	
	92	77,927	79,462	-1,535	-1.93%	
	93	78,360	79,462	-1,102	-1.39%	
	94	83,435	79,462	3,973	5.00%	
	95	82,155	79,462	2,693	3.39%	
	96	76,520	79,462	-2,942	-3.70%	
	97	78,265	79,462	-1,197	-1.51%	
	98	76,218	79,462	-3,244	-4.08%	
	99	76,192	79,462	-3,270	-4.12%	
	100	77,928	79,462	-1,534	-1.93%	
	101	75,680	79,462	-3,782	-4.76%	
	102	75,637	79,462	-3,825	-4.81%	
	103	76,107	79,462	-3,355	-4.22%	
	104	77,637	79,462	-1,825	-2.30%	
	105	75,712	79,462	-3,750	-4.72%	
	106	76,822	79,462	-2,640	-3.32%	
	107	78,268	79,462	-1,194	-1.50%	
	108	76,926	79,462	-2,536	-3.19%	
	109	75,517	79,462	-3,945	-4.96%	
	110	75,573	79,462	-3,889	-4.89%	
	111	76,148	79,462	-3,314	-4.17%	
	112	79,547	79,462	85	0.11%	
	113	81,089	79,462	1,627	2.05%	
	114	82,902	79,462	3,440	4.33%	
	115	79,883	79,462	421	0.53%	
	116	75,533	79,462	-3,929	-4.94%	
	117	79,251	79,462	-211	-0.27%	
	118	76,322	79,462	-3,140	-3.95%	
	119	75,548	79,462	-3,914	-4.93%	
	120	80,814	79,462	1,352	1.70%	
	Total:	9,535,483				

HSA-1 Jackson Covington Plaintiffs Proposed House Plan: Population 2010, US Senate 2010, President 2012

	2010 Census		US Senate 2010: Marshall-Burr-Beitler								US President 2012: Obama-Romney-Johnson							
District	Total Pop	18+ Pop	Dem	Dem %	Rep	Rep %	Lib	Lib %	Write-In	Write-In %	Dem	Dem %	Rep	Rep %	Lib	Lib %	Write-In	Write-In %
1	76,421	60,608	8,872	34.50%	16,174	62.90%	661	2.57%	7	0.03%	14,765	38.52%	22,988	59.97%	532	1.39%	50	0.13%
2	82,891	64,778	10,460	47.76%	11,004	50.24%	435	1.99%	3	0.01%	18,581	49.90%	18,314	49.18%	275	0.74%	68	0.18%
3	77,143	60,226	11,572	46.71%	12,798	51.66%	398	1.61%	6	0.02%	19,188	51.49%	17,761	47.66%	255	0.68%	62	0.17%
4	76,858	56,575	6,685	40.27%	9,640	58.08%	268	1.61%	6	0.04%	10,892	40.01%	16,107	59.17%	185	0.68%	37	0.14%
5	77,527	60,228	10,791	55.68%	8,307	42.86%	273	1.41%	11	0.06%	20,871	60.75%	13,179	38.36%	249	0.72%	57	0.17%
6	75,544	58,428	8,882	38.82%	13,517	59.07%	467	2.04%	16	0.07%	16,067	44.76%	19,504	54.33%	255	0.71%	72	0.20%
7	78,068	59,172	11,388	49.46%	11,207	48.67%	422	1.83%	9	0.04%	18,994	51.14%	17,728	47.73%	323	0.87%	96	0.26%
8	81,234	61,182	13,631	51.47%	12,420	46.90%	428	1.62%	3	0.01%	20,875	53.38%	17,954	45.91%	242	0.62%	38	0.10%
9	75,617	60,766	8,468	45.56%	9,897	53.25%	213	1.15%	8	0.04%	18,962	51.97%	17,138	46.97%	325	0.89%	59	0.16%
10	76,487	57,910	10,333	45.80%	11,962	53.02%	252	1.12%	13	0.06%	17,602	48.76%	18,279	50.63%	182	0.50%	38	0.11%
11	82,422	69,269	10,041	57.89%	6,729	38.79%	564	3.25%	12	0.07%	24,202	63.89%	12,697	33.52%	894	2.36%	89	0.23%
12	75,720	58,106	6,690	31.19%	14,363	66.96%	389	1.81%	7	0.03%	12,131	35.79%	21,401	63.14%	289	0.85%	71	0.21%
13	76,622	61,839	7,638	28.48%	18,590	69.32%	538	2.01%	52	0.19%	12,458	31.09%	27,181	67.84%	359	0.90%	68	0.17%
14	76,496	55,951	4,887	38.38%	7,537	59.20%	299	2.35%	9	0.07%	11,091	44.24%	13,654	54.47%	252	1.01%	72	0.29%
15	82,923	63,943	2,490	24.34%	7,425	72.59%	310	3.03%	3	0.03%	5,522	28.02%	13,887	70.47%	241	1.22%	56	0.28%
16	82,422	63,610	9,325	37.83%	14,831	60.16%	486	1.97%	10	0.04%	14,432	39.64%	21,570	59.25%	318	0.87%	86	0.24%
17	77,263	64,270	9,560	31.61%	20,050	66.30%	624	2.06%	8	0.03%	15,595	36.15%	27,141	62.91%	333	0.77%	74	0.17%
18	77,681	61,478	11,041	55.09%	8,555	42.68%	437	2.18%	10	0.05%	22,442	61.89%	13,304	36.69%	413	1.14%	100	0.28%
19	76,666	60,681	8,459	32.87%	16,677	64.80%	587	2.28%	14	0.05%	16,301	40.73%	23,121	57.77%	483	1.21%	119	0.30%
20	78,488	63,095	9,000	33.59%	17,209	64.23%	570	2.13%	12	0.04%	16,368	39.38%	24,562	59.09%	499	1.20%	135	0.32%
21	83,434	63,103	10,826	49.14%	10,923	49.58%	277	1.26%	5	0.02%	19,289	53.98%	16,234	45.43%	203	0.57%	7	0.02%
22	83,428	63,057	12,830	49.65%	12,643	48.92%	362	1.40%	8	0.03%	17,983	50.04%	17,684	49.21%	225	0.63%	44	0.12%
23	81,057	61,743	14,653	59.95%	9,513	38.92%	269	1.10%	8	0.03%	24,825	62.80%	14,515	36.72%	147	0.37%	43	0.11%
24	75,539	56,837	9,267	51.06%	8,653	47.68%	222	1.22%	6	0.03%	19,148	56.09%	14,718	43.11%	237	0.69%	35	0.10%
25	78,391	59,490	11,062	43.28%	14,168	55.43%	321	1.26%	7	0.03%	18,755	47.19%	20,717	52.13%	199	0.50%	69	0.17%
26	83,434	58,646	7,839	31.87%	16,201	65.87%	541	2.20%	15	0.06%	14,905	35.69%	26,252	62.87%	482	1.15%	120	0.29%
27	76,790	59,572	13,603	61.65%	8,196	37.14%	261	1.18%	6	0.03%	24,188	66.17%	12,189	33.34%	143	0.39%	35	0.10%
28	83,429	61,771	7,595	34.59%	14,038	63.93%	321	1.46%	6	0.03%	12,261	36.60%	20,888	62.36%	264	0.79%	85	0.25%
29	82,725	65,549	21,069	80.08%	4,838	18.39%	386	1.47%	16	0.06%	40,060	82.30%	8,087	16.61%	459	0.94%	67	0.14%
30	83,264	65,948	16,535	63.92%	8,907	34.43%	418	1.62%	10	0.04%	31,778	70.90%	12,561	28.03%	408	0.91%	72	0.16%
31	82,791	61,072	15,814	71.06%	6,107	27.44%	322	1.45%	10	0.04%	31,512	75.70%	9,729	23.37%	341	0.82%	44	0.11%
32	82,883	62,750	14,154	56.80%	10,302	41.34%	455	1.83%	9	0.04%	23,736	60.61%	15,156	38.70%	201	0.51%	66	0.17%
33	83,261	61,139	15,072	64.20%	8,037	34.23%	361	1.54%	7	0.03%	28,423	69.77%	11,902	29.22%	356	0.87%	58	0.14%
34	79,853	62,001	14,253	44.67%	16,976	53.20%	659	2.07%	22	0.07%	25,257	51.15%	23,453	47.49%	597	1.21%	74	0.15%
35	82,809	56,976	10,156	46.53%	11,179	51.22%	468	2.14%	23	0.11%	22,556	53.51%	19,097	45.30%	425	1.01%	76	0.18%
36	83,373	60,452	11,979	38.61%	18,268	58.89%	765	2.47%	11	0.04%	22,127	44.76%	26,623	53.85%	612	1.24%	76	0.15%
37	83,318	58,264	9,264	36.55%	15,412	60.81%	659	2.60%	10	0.04%	19,754	42.89%	25,621	55.63%	612	1.33%	69	0.15%
38	81,715	61,210	16,904	73.06%	5,857	25.31%	367	1.59%	10	0.04%	32,300	77.25%	9,076	21.71%	376	0.90%	59	0.14%
39	83,299	59,968	12,043	49.35%	11,810	48.40%	538	2.20%	10	0.04%	23,626	55.50%	18,420	43.27%	440	1.03%	81	0.19%
40	76,609	55,500	9,391	37.86%	14,693	59.23%	711	2.87%	10	0.04%	19,759	45.92%	22,668	52.68%	536	1.25%	70	0.16%
41	82,866	55,814	9,681	41.60%	12,937	55.59%	648	2.78%	5	0.02%	21,885	50.00%	21,220	48.48%	585	1.34%	84	0.19%
42	79,902	57,131	7,471	60.33%	4,668	37.69%	237	1.91%	8	0.06%	16,253	66.44%	7,882	32.22%	249	1.02%	78	0.32%
43	76,757	58,347	10,831	54.71%	8,719	44.04%	237	1.20%	10	0.05%	21,568	60.45%	13,896	38.95%	178	0.50%	39	0.11%
44	79,644	60,333	9,481	48.25%	9,768	49.71%	392	1.99%	9	0.05%	18,810	55.96%	14,463	43.02%	277	0.82%	66	0.20%
45	83,128	58,079	8,909	51.73%	8,050	46.74%	255	1.48%	8	0.05%	19,161	56.55%	14,425	42.57%	223	0.66%	73	0.22%
46	81,643	60,773	9,261	49.84%	9,048	48.69%	261	1.40%	11	0.06%	17,122	54.53%	14,047	44.74%	176	0.56%	54	0.17%
47	80,418	58,752	6,814	54.36%	5,525	44.08%	184	1.47%	11	0.09%	14,116	59.09%	9,451	39.57%	244	1.02%	76	0.32%
48	83,109	59,851	9,247	55.26%	7,197	43.01%	281	1.68%	9	0.05%	18,291	58.54%	12,650	40.49%	258	0.83%	46	0.15%
49	81,468	65,787	14,540	49.22%	14,234	48.19%	747	2.53%	19	0.06%	27,373	55.82%	20,819	42.45%	738	1.50%	108	0.22%
50	79,107	60,643	14,838	53.96%	12,005	43.66%	648	2.36%	6	0.02%	23,933	56.01%	18,207	42.61%	472	1.10%	116	0.27%
51	83,434	60,484	8,009	41.76%	10,823	56.43%	341	1.78%	6	0.03%	14,377	44.23%	17,749	54.60%	312	0.96%	69	0.21%
52	76,894	60,407	8,130	31.91%	16,852	66.14%	491	1.93%	7	0.03%	14,828	36.08%	25,925	63.08%	289	0.70%	58	0.14%
53	83,434	61,063	7,336	36.86%	12,153	61.06%	406	2.04%	8	0.04%	12,414	38.11%	19,760	60.67%	329	1.01%	69	0.21%

HSA-1 Jackson Covington Plaintiffs Proposed House Plan: Population 2010, US Senate 2010, President 2012

	2010 Census		US Senate 2010: Marshall-Burr-Beitler								US President 2012: Obama-Romney-Johnson							
District	Total Pop	18+ Pop	Dem	Dem %	Rep	Rep %	Lib	Lib %	Write-In	Write-In %	Dem	Dem %	Rep	Rep %	Lib	Lib %	Write-In	Write-In %
54	82,312	64,361	16,920	53.96%	13,730	43.79%	695	2.22%	10	0.03%	26,235	55.99%	20,057	42.81%	473	1.01%	89	0.19%
55	75,792	57,260	7,418	36.90%	12,345	61.41%	326	1.62%	12	0.06%	13,756	39.49%	20,716	59.48%	275	0.79%	84	0.24%
56	78,413	64,019	19,652	76.92%	5,345	20.92%	531	2.08%	20	0.08%	35,316	78.36%	8,926	19.81%	668	1.48%	158	0.35%
57	83,226	67,386	12,629	47.51%	13,354	50.24%	575	2.16%	21	0.08%	27,826	58.77%	18,809	39.73%	562	1.19%	147	0.31%
58	77,567	59,171	13,328	56.69%	9,816	41.75%	355	1.51%	11	0.05%	26,934	62.37%	15,890	36.80%	282	0.65%	77	0.18%
59	81,528	60,372	11,484	55.53%	8,835	42.72%	358	1.73%	4	0.02%	26,735	64.26%	14,522	34.91%	265	0.64%	81	0.19%
60	82,909	61,880	10,255	57.53%	7,283	40.86%	261	1.46%	25	0.14%	23,955	67.32%	11,345	31.88%	215	0.60%	70	0.20%
61	81,135	62,440	8,961	41.55%	12,149	56.34%	430	1.99%	25	0.12%	21,225	52.47%	18,760	46.37%	364	0.90%	105	0.26%
62	82,041	62,674	8,484	33.71%	16,149	64.17%	522	2.07%	10	0.04%	19,195	42.68%	25,254	56.15%	410	0.91%	113	0.25%
63	75,550	57,278	8,482	38.39%	13,031	58.99%	571	2.58%	8	0.04%	15,509	43.71%	19,573	55.17%	330	0.93%	68	0.19%
64	75,581	58,410	6,964	35.86%	11,981	61.69%	458	2.36%	17	0.09%	13,366	41.39%	18,597	57.58%	267	0.83%	66	0.20%
65	83,394	64,685	7,483	33.29%	14,271	63.50%	705	3.14%	16	0.07%	14,654	39.09%	22,451	59.89%	299	0.80%	84	0.22%
66	81,734	61,899	10,739	48.79%	10,854	49.31%	407	1.85%	11	0.05%	16,562	48.45%	17,323	50.67%	274	0.80%	27	0.08%
67	81,314	62,635	5,907	24.14%	18,048	73.75%	505	2.06%	11	0.04%	9,182	24.19%	28,285	74.53%	404	1.06%	79	0.21%
68	76,067	49,871	5,344	28.78%	12,791	68.88%	426	2.29%	9	0.05%	13,160	35.92%	23,097	63.04%	316	0.86%	66	0.18%
69	76,381	54,263	5,446	30.22%	12,148	67.40%	419	2.32%	11	0.06%	12,576	36.44%	21,460	62.18%	368	1.07%	110	0.32%
70	76,125	57,325	3,558	21.14%	12,749	75.74%	513	3.05%	13	0.08%	8,189	25.84%	23,113	72.94%	343	1.08%	44	0.14%
71	78,227	57,294	7,887	50.13%	7,531	47.87%	308	1.96%	6	0.04%	20,359	60.15%	13,202	39.01%	284	0.84%	0	0.00%
72	81,553	61,832	10,622	49.90%	10,287	48.33%	370	1.74%	6	0.03%	23,738	58.45%	16,545	40.74%	332	0.82%	0	0.00%
73	77,321	58,545	6,137	24.42%	18,456	73.42%	535	2.13%	8	0.03%	11,627	30.01%	26,623	68.72%	446	1.15%	47	0.12%
74	76,092	58,140	8,869	39.31%	13,272	58.82%	416	1.84%	7	0.03%	18,784	48.42%	19,652	50.66%	359	0.93%	0	0.00%
75	75,883	58,926	9,872	45.48%	11,452	52.76%	374	1.72%	8	0.04%	21,772	56.59%	16,324	42.43%	379	0.99%	0	0.00%
76	83,435	62,417	5,665	27.36%	14,741	71.20%	297	1.43%	2	0.01%	10,605	31.75%	22,557	67.54%	214	0.64%	22	0.07%
77	82,902	63,420	8,656	39.10%	12,915	58.34%	553	2.50%	14	0.06%	16,599	43.69%	20,855	54.89%	400	1.05%	139	0.37%
78	76,980	58,404	4,029	21.41%	14,213	75.51%	567	3.01%	13	0.07%	8,233	24.08%	25,560	74.77%	335	0.98%	58	0.17%
79	82,213	62,513	5,963	24.58%	17,723	73.06%	559	2.30%	13	0.05%	10,536	27.31%	27,551	71.41%	388	1.01%	109	0.28%
80	81,522	61,819	4,779	23.10%	15,452	74.68%	458	2.21%	3	0.01%	9,557	26.44%	26,120	72.27%	383	1.06%	81	0.22%
81	81,356	62,187	6,468	30.99%	13,884	66.51%	508	2.43%	14	0.07%	11,067	31.81%	23,263	66.86%	393	1.13%	71	0.20%
82	81,563	58,963	7,226	30.21%	16,152	67.53%	542	2.27%	0	0.00%	14,247	35.53%	25,414	63.39%	432	1.08%	0	0.00%
83	82,975	59,938	7,717	39.59%	11,351	58.23%	425	2.18%	0	0.00%	17,115	46.70%	19,150	52.25%	386	1.05%	0	0.00%
84	77,282	58,924	7,244	32.03%	14,736	65.16%	617	2.73%	18	0.08%	12,673	34.35%	23,733	64.33%	356	0.96%	131	0.36%
85	78,372	62,493	6,014	26.73%	15,873	70.54%	595	2.64%	20	0.09%	9,740	29.02%	23,328	69.50%	389	1.16%	110	0.33%
86	79,175	61,639	7,764	37.95%	12,242	59.83%	450	2.20%	5	0.02%	12,429	38.01%	19,756	60.42%	393	1.20%	119	0.36%
87	83,029	64,243	6,908	31.41%	14,382	65.39%	690	3.14%	15	0.07%	10,898	31.49%	23,229	67.12%	479	1.38%	0	0.00%
88	75,500	59,728	9,939	50.97%	9,138	46.86%	411	2.11%	11	0.06%	22,652	59.12%	15,144	39.52%	424	1.11%	97	0.25%
89	77,838	59,483	6,177	29.81%	13,998	67.55%	532	2.57%	15	0.07%	11,364	32.70%	22,869	65.82%	392	1.13%	122	0.35%
90	82,702	64,422	6,874	30.83%	14,897	66.81%	523	2.35%	5	0.02%	10,114	30.14%	22,950	68.38%	398	1.19%	98	0.29%
91	82,879	64,001	6,448	27.37%	16,516	70.10%	588	2.50%	9	0.04%	10,469	28.79%	25,329	69.65%	459	1.26%	107	0.29%
92	77,927	57,404	9,215	57.34%	6,546	40.73%	302	1.88%	8	0.05%	22,168	65.91%	11,066	32.90%	305	0.91%	95	0.28%
93	78,360	65,985	10,383	39.34%	15,262	57.83%	729	2.76%	18	0.07%	17,118	42.54%	22,103	54.93%	803	2.00%	213	0.53%
94	83,435	64,551	7,914	30.67%	17,144	66.44%	732	2.84%	12	0.05%	10,486	28.51%	25,658	69.76%	511	1.39%	128	0.35%
95	82,155	59,928	5,680	27.90%	14,174	69.63%	496	2.44%	6	0.03%	13,403	33.96%	25,566	64.77%	391	0.99%	112	0.28%
96	76,520	58,080	6,470	31.28%	13,705	66.27%	495	2.39%	11	0.05%	12,700	36.45%	21,665	62.18%	378	1.08%	102	0.29%
97	78,265	59,784	6,958	30.01%	15,653	67.51%	564	2.43%	11	0.05%	11,021	29.97%	25,266	68.71%	369	1.00%	115	0.31%
98	76,218	56,003	8,451	40.27%	12,140	57.85%	389	1.85%	7	0.03%	19,287	46.96%	21,312	51.90%	383	0.93%	85	0.21%
99	76,192	58,381	10,568	74.08%	3,482	24.41%	207	1.45%	8	0.06%	25,292	78.57%	6,526	20.27%	278	0.86%	93	0.29%
100	77,928	56,057	10,092	60.49%	6,333	37.96%	246	1.47%	12	0.07%	22,186	68.14%	10,046	30.85%	263	0.81%	65	0.20%
101	75,680	57,674	10,271	65.56%	5,091	32.50%	292	1.86%	12	0.08%	25,284	72.57%	9,197	26.40%	281	0.81%	80	0.23%
102	75,637	56,470	10,005	53.19%	8,515	45.27%	280	1.49%	11	0.06%	21,481	61.59%	13,062	37.45%	256	0.73%	77	0.22%
103	76,107	57,260	9,213	44.60%	11,038	53.43%	394	1.91%	14	0.07%	19,728	53.58%	16,606	45.10%	373	1.01%	114	0.31%
104	77,637	58,214	8,538	32.96%	16,838	65.01%	518	2.00%	8	0.03%	17,531	40.57%	25,154	58.20%	422	0.98%	110	0.25%
105	75,712	54,649	6,779	33.12%	13,266	64.81%	413	2.02%	12	0.06%	16,545	42.09%	22,370	56.92%	324	0.82%	65	0.17%
106	76,822	58,033	12,442	75.47%	3,766	22.84%	272	1.65%	7	0.04%	28,723	80.48%	6,550	18.35%	326	0.91%	89	0.25%

HSA-1 Jackson Covington Plaintiffs Proposed House Plan: Population 2010, US Senate 2010, President 2012

	2010 Census		US Senate 2010: Marshall-Burr-Beitler								US President 2012: Obama-Romney-Johnson							
District	Total Pop	18+ Pop	Dem	Dem %	Rep	Rep %	Lib	Lib %	Write-In	Write-In %	Dem	Dem %	Rep	Rep %	Lib	Lib %	Write-In	Write-In %
107	78,268	56,417	12,031	60.33%	7,614	38.18%	293	1.47%	5	0.03%	26,255	65.63%	13,422	33.55%	257	0.64%	69	0.17%
108	76,926	59,400	5,880	32.51%	11,794	65.21%	413	2.28%	0	0.00%	12,869	38.42%	20,266	60.50%	362	1.08%	0	0.00%
109	75,517	56,493	6,277	33.20%	12,209	64.58%	419	2.22%	0	0.00%	14,138	40.79%	20,201	58.28%	321	0.93%	0	0.00%
110	75,573	57,987	6,366	33.61%	12,134	64.06%	439	2.32%	2	0.01%	11,593	35.29%	20,921	63.69%	314	0.96%	20	0.06%
111	76,148	58,045	7,206	36.13%	12,341	61.87%	390	1.96%	9	0.05%	11,633	35.72%	20,543	63.07%	306	0.94%	89	0.27%
112	79,547	61,671	6,370	30.24%	14,175	67.30%	509	2.42%	9	0.04%	10,646	32.71%	21,465	65.95%	351	1.08%	87	0.27%
113	81,089	66,177	11,159	36.07%	19,015	61.47%	754	2.44%	8	0.03%	15,774	37.46%	25,726	61.09%	477	1.13%	132	0.31%
114	82,902	67,453	17,655	66.88%	8,010	30.34%	725	2.75%	8	0.03%	33,044	72.54%	11,524	25.30%	682	1.50%	300	0.66%
115	79,883	63,911	12,292	44.29%	14,665	52.84%	766	2.76%	31	0.11%	20,831	47.82%	21,945	50.38%	592	1.36%	195	0.45%
116	75,533	58,114	9,048	38.38%	13,930	59.09%	585	2.48%	12	0.05%	16,743	43.40%	21,230	55.04%	447	1.16%	154	0.40%
117	79,251	62,434	8,152	32.28%	16,500	65.33%	596	2.36%	9	0.04%	13,707	36.65%	23,138	61.86%	435	1.16%	123	0.33%
118	76,322	60,837	12,403	42.23%	16,191	55.12%	767	2.61%	12	0.04%	15,098	41.30%	20,729	56.71%	548	1.50%	180	0.49%
119	75,548	61,452	10,591	46.03%	11,788	51.23%	619	2.69%	12	0.05%	15,557	47.80%	16,410	50.42%	543	1.67%	39	0.12%
120	80,814	65,097	9,909	32.86%	19,081	63.28%	1,143	3.79%	18	0.06%	11,787	30.01%	26,800	68.23%	517	1.32%	176	0.45%
Totals:	9,535,483	7,253,848	1,141,700	43.04%	1,454,082	54.82%	55,554	2.09%	1,263	0.05%	2,171,293	48.33%	2,267,353	50.47%	44,448	0.99%	9,519	0.21%

HSA-1 Jackson Covington Plaintiffs Proposed House Plan: Governor 2012, Lieutenant Governor 2012, US Senate 2014

	Governor 2012: Dalton-McCrory-Howe								Lieutenant Governor 2012: Coleman-Forest				US Senate 2014: Tillis-Hagan-Haugh							
District	Dem	Dem %	Rep	Rep %	Lib	Lib %	Write-In	Write-In %	Dem	Dem %	Rep	Rep %	Rep	Rep %	Dem	Dem %	Lib	Lib %	Write-In	Write-In %
1	13,800	36.70%	22,340	59.41%	1,446	3.85%	14	0.04%	15,559	42.25%	21,269	57.75%	16,135	58.33%	10,543	38.11%	962	3.48%	22	0.08%
2	17,286	46.85%	18,924	51.29%	675	1.83%	9	0.02%	19,304	54.04%	16,420	45.96%	11,285	46.98%	11,770	49.00%	927	3.86%	38	0.16%
3	19,104	52.09%	16,908	46.10%	653	1.78%	8	0.02%	20,570	57.32%	15,314	42.68%	11,858	47.79%	12,208	49.20%	729	2.94%	17	0.07%
4	10,590	39.29%	15,936	59.12%	421	1.56%	8	0.03%	11,706	44.23%	14,761	55.77%	9,788	57.55%	6,546	38.49%	654	3.85%	19	0.11%
5	20,700	61.40%	12,290	36.45%	721	2.14%	3	0.01%	21,685	65.17%	11,591	34.83%	7,987	40.13%	11,521	57.88%	382	1.92%	15	0.08%
6	15,205	42.49%	19,958	55.77%	621	1.74%	4	0.01%	17,010	48.54%	18,035	51.46%	13,109	52.06%	10,785	42.83%	1,189	4.72%	99	0.39%
7	17,605	47.57%	18,683	50.48%	707	1.91%	15	0.04%	19,352	53.14%	17,062	46.86%	11,920	46.08%	12,831	49.60%	1,071	4.14%	47	0.18%
8	20,058	51.71%	18,288	47.15%	436	1.12%	8	0.02%	21,144	55.44%	16,994	44.56%	11,750	45.62%	13,325	51.74%	657	2.55%	24	0.09%
9	17,088	47.23%	18,295	50.57%	789	2.18%	7	0.02%	18,996	53.45%	16,542	46.55%	9,887	48.14%	10,017	48.77%	600	2.92%	36	0.18%
10	16,946	47.31%	18,452	51.51%	410	1.14%	11	0.03%	18,437	52.21%	16,877	47.79%	11,517	48.61%	11,343	47.87%	817	3.45%	16	0.07%
11	21,012	56.38%	14,485	38.87%	1,758	4.72%	14	0.04%	23,407	64.75%	12,745	35.25%	6,380	30.53%	13,565	64.91%	904	4.33%	48	0.23%
12	10,905	32.52%	22,008	65.63%	607	1.81%	12	0.04%	12,545	38.00%	20,469	62.00%	14,211	60.92%	8,253	35.38%	816	3.50%	48	0.21%
13	11,186	27.90%	28,180	70.30%	711	1.77%	10	0.02%	13,096	33.28%	26,250	66.72%	18,332	63.57%	9,180	31.83%	1,201	4.16%	126	0.44%
14	9,993	40.41%	14,099	57.01%	633	2.56%	7	0.03%	11,383	47.03%	12,820	52.97%	8,426	55.78%	6,017	39.83%	643	4.26%	21	0.14%
15	4,779	24.65%	14,014	72.29%	590	3.04%	4	0.02%	6,049	32.11%	12,792	67.89%	8,460	69.55%	3,026	24.88%	656	5.39%	22	0.18%
16	14,007	38.77%	21,391	59.21%	722	2.00%	7	0.02%	15,811	44.70%	19,557	55.30%	12,889	54.15%	9,372	39.37%	1,487	6.25%	54	0.23%
17	13,028	30.49%	28,818	67.45%	874	2.05%	4	0.01%	16,102	38.50%	25,725	61.50%	18,597	58.14%	11,618	36.32%	1,730	5.41%	39	0.12%
18	19,993	56.18%	14,447	40.60%	1,136	3.19%	12	0.03%	21,986	63.19%	12,809	36.81%	6,879	33.33%	12,754	61.79%	968	4.69%	39	0.19%
19	13,581	34.41%	24,684	62.54%	1,193	3.02%	10	0.03%	16,131	42.05%	22,234	57.95%	14,029	52.05%	11,412	42.34%	1,465	5.44%	48	0.18%
20	13,683	33.44%	26,066	63.71%	1,152	2.82%	12	0.03%	16,044	40.45%	23,624	59.55%	14,896	53.87%	11,396	41.22%	1,311	4.74%	47	0.17%
21	18,488	51.99%	16,619	46.73%	448	1.26%	8	0.02%	19,732	56.30%	15,317	43.70%	10,664	45.58%	12,026	51.40%	679	2.90%	26	0.11%
22	17,826	49.83%	17,547	49.05%	396	1.11%	4	0.01%	19,518	55.61%	15,580	44.39%	11,369	46.27%	12,027	48.95%	1,127	4.59%	47	0.19%
23	24,490	62.22%	14,521	36.89%	350	0.89%	1	0.00%	25,919	66.94%	12,801	33.06%	8,825	34.89%	15,731	62.19%	722	2.85%	17	0.07%
24	18,271	53.77%	15,217	44.78%	490	1.44%	5	0.01%	19,607	58.52%	13,896	41.48%	8,575	43.66%	10,435	53.13%	597	3.04%	35	0.18%
25	18,126	45.69%	21,158	53.34%	381	0.96%	3	0.01%	19,346	49.47%	19,763	50.53%	14,714	52.17%	12,625	44.76%	833	2.95%	31	0.11%
26	13,090	31.49%	27,503	66.17%	965	2.32%	9	0.02%	15,187	37.27%	25,559	62.73%	16,575	60.53%	9,714	35.47%	1,047	3.82%	48	0.18%
27	23,878	65.27%	12,369	33.81%	331	0.90%	4	0.01%	25,041	69.33%	11,076	30.67%	8,198	34.09%	15,190	63.16%	647	2.69%	16	0.07%
28	11,533	34.51%	21,409	64.06%	465	1.39%	15	0.04%	13,178	40.24%	19,574	59.76%	13,336	60.68%	7,662	34.87%	932	4.24%	46	0.21%
29	37,029	76.91%	9,824	20.41%	1,269	2.64%	22	0.05%	39,124	82.66%	8,206	17.34%	4,311	14.24%	25,411	83.95%	517	1.71%	32	0.11%
30	29,164	65.97%	13,809	31.24%	1,216	2.75%	20	0.05%	31,072	71.65%	12,293	28.35%	7,868	26.98%	20,608	70.68%	657	2.25%	24	0.08%
31	29,438	71.40%	10,851	26.32%	915	2.22%	24	0.06%	30,945	76.02%	9,764	23.98%	5,772	22.30%	19,536	75.48%	534	2.06%	40	0.15%
32	22,586	58.18%	15,747	40.56%	484	1.25%	6	0.02%	24,269	63.56%	13,911	36.44%	9,811	38.10%	15,152	58.84%	749	2.91%	38	0.15%
33	26,257	64.63%	13,515	33.27%	856	2.11%	0	0.00%	28,443	70.85%	11,704	29.15%	7,578	28.56%	18,180	68.52%	729	2.75%	45	0.17%
34	22,017	44.94%	25,700	52.45%	1,268	2.59%	10	0.02%	24,668	51.37%	23,348	48.63%	15,679	44.33%	18,712	52.90%	934	2.64%	45	0.13%
35	19,759	47.23%	21,069	50.36%	998	2.39%	14	0.03%	21,755	52.92%	19,354	47.08%	12,290	44.21%	14,705	52.90%	752	2.71%	50	0.18%
36	18,550	37.82%	29,123	59.37%	1,367	2.79%	12	0.02%	21,409	44.70%	26,484	55.30%	18,018	50.34%	16,688	46.63%	1,025	2.86%	60	0.17%
37	16,734	36.60%	27,676	60.53%	1,305	2.85%	11	0.02%	19,352	43.30%	25,337	56.70%	17,041	53.94%	13,340	42.22%	1,128	3.57%	86	0.27%
38	29,879	71.87%	10,724	25.79%	963	2.32%	10	0.02%	31,919	77.93%	9,041	22.07%	5,637	20.69%	20,875	76.61%	689	2.53%	46	0.17%
39	21,341	50.28%	20,145	47.47%	941	2.22%	14	0.03%	23,690	56.70%	18,094	43.30%	11,596	41.65%	15,331	55.06%	868	3.12%	49	0.18%
40	16,398	38.46%	25,043	58.74%	1,174	2.75%	16	0.04%	18,758	44.95%	22,977	55.05%	15,332	50.42%	14,230	46.80%	811	2.67%	36	0.12%
41	18,306	42.31%	23,677	54.72%	1,271	2.94%	13	0.03%	20,806	49.40%	21,308	50.60%	13,672	45.74%	15,335	51.31%	832	2.78%	49	0.16%
42	15,126	62.88%	8,236	34.24%	681	2.83%	14	0.06%	16,128	68.11%	7,553	31.89%	4,478	32.97%	8,679	63.91%	403	2.97%	21	0.15%
43	20,330	57.77%	14,282	40.59%	570	1.62%	7	0.02%	21,877	62.86%	12,926	37.14%	8,798	41.05%	11,918	55.61%	689	3.22%	25	0.12%
44	17,466	52.67%	14,906	44.95%	785	2.37%	6	0.02%	19,033	58.59%	13,453	41.41%	9,066	44.30%	10,674	52.15%	696	3.40%	31	0.15%
45	17,758	53.28%	14,886	44.66%	681	2.04%	7	0.02%	19,287	58.64%	13,603	41.36%	8,468	42.32%	10,856	54.26%	658	3.29%	26	0.13%
46	17,575	56.77%	12,912	41.71%	457	1.48%	12	0.04%	19,336	63.78%	10,982	36.22%	7,857	43.00%	9,589	52.48%	800	4.38%	25	0.14%
47	14,355	60.80%	8,780	37.19%	470	1.99%	6	0.03%	15,828	68.56%	7,257	31.44%	6,148	43.98%	7,327	52.41%	481	3.44%	23	0.16%
48	17,506	57.00%	12,512	40.74%	683	2.22%	11	0.04%	18,833	62.60%	11,253	37.40%	8,168	39.86%	11,599	56.60%	702	3.43%	25	0.12%
49	23,569	48.53%	23,427	48.24%	1,558	3.21%	13	0.03%	26,566	56.13%	20,765	43.87%	13,013	39.37%	19,072	57.70%	916	2.77%	55	0.17%
50	22,070	52.09%	19,193	45.30%	1,087	2.57%	17	0.04%	23,884	57.48%	17,670	42.52%	11,661	38.80%	17,470	58.12%	892	2.97%	34	0.11%
51	13,406	41.48%	18,255	56.49%	648	2.01%	9	0.03%	15,071	47.66%	16,551	52.34%	10,575	51.23%	9,060	43.89%	972	4.71%	37	0.18%
52	13,223	32.47%	26,842	65.91%	647	1.59%	13	0.03%	14,727	36.95%	25,133	63.05%	18,117	61.71%	10,299	35.08%	918	3.13%	25	0.09%
53	11,439	35.24%	20,320	62.59%	690	2.13%	14	0.04%	13,175	41.24%	18,775	58.76%	12,045	58.76%	7,582	36.99%	831	4.05%	39	0.19%

HSA-1 Jackson Covington Plaintiffs Proposed House Plan: Governor 2012, Lieutenant Governor 2012, US Senate 2014

	Governor 2012: Dalton-McCrory-Howe								Lieutenant Governor 2012: Coleman-Forest				US Senate 2014: Tillis-Hagan-Haugh							
District	Dem	Dem %	Rep	Rep %	Lib	Lib %	Write-In	Write-In %	Dem	Dem %	Rep	Rep %	Rep	Rep %	Dem	Dem %	Lib	Lib %	Write-In	Write-In %
54	23,822	51.27%	21,500	46.27%	1,129	2.43%	13	0.03%	25,713	56.54%	19,767	43.46%	13,798	38.55%	20,947	58.53%	1,010	2.82%	33	0.09%
55	11,895	34.27%	22,352	64.40%	451	1.30%	9	0.03%	14,409	42.63%	19,392	57.37%	12,564	58.22%	8,132	37.68%	825	3.82%	59	0.27%
56	31,782	72.09%	10,835	24.58%	1,434	3.25%	35	0.08%	33,842	78.83%	9,089	21.17%	4,603	15.39%	24,676	82.48%	615	2.06%	22	0.07%
57	24,103	51.56%	21,298	45.56%	1,329	2.84%	21	0.04%	26,786	58.79%	18,778	41.21%	12,284	38.69%	18,674	58.81%	755	2.38%	38	0.12%
58	24,929	58.22%	17,139	40.03%	731	1.71%	17	0.04%	26,596	63.09%	15,560	36.91%	10,406	37.12%	16,959	60.49%	639	2.28%	32	0.11%
59	24,558	59.66%	15,831	38.46%	759	1.84%	15	0.04%	26,345	64.97%	14,203	35.03%	9,485	36.93%	15,590	60.69%	579	2.25%	33	0.13%
60	22,082	62.75%	12,464	35.42%	636	1.81%	10	0.03%	23,491	67.88%	11,118	32.12%	7,162	33.57%	13,682	64.12%	474	2.22%	19	0.09%
61	18,490	46.11%	20,671	51.54%	930	2.32%	13	0.03%	20,635	52.59%	18,602	47.41%	12,105	46.69%	13,068	50.40%	719	2.77%	37	0.14%
62	16,198	36.37%	27,257	61.20%	1,070	2.40%	16	0.04%	18,464	42.48%	25,003	57.52%	17,156	55.89%	12,746	41.52%	749	2.44%	45	0.15%
63	13,645	38.81%	20,703	58.88%	806	2.29%	8	0.02%	15,271	44.34%	19,170	55.66%	12,602	53.40%	9,988	42.32%	965	4.09%	44	0.19%
64	11,979	37.49%	19,341	60.53%	627	1.96%	4	0.01%	13,229	42.12%	18,180	57.88%	11,778	56.82%	8,157	39.35%	765	3.69%	29	0.14%
65	13,493	36.23%	23,054	61.90%	687	1.84%	8	0.02%	15,401	42.37%	20,944	57.63%	14,332	56.97%	9,467	37.63%	1,296	5.15%	61	0.24%
66	15,152	44.52%	18,316	53.82%	542	1.59%	23	0.07%	17,953	54.53%	14,968	45.47%	10,973	47.11%	10,984	47.16%	1,263	5.42%	71	0.30%
67	6,837	18.03%	30,494	80.40%	594	1.57%	2	0.01%	9,655	26.24%	27,140	73.76%	17,412	69.55%	5,922	23.66%	1,622	6.48%	78	0.31%
68	9,603	26.44%	26,124	71.94%	580	1.60%	8	0.02%	12,272	34.62%	23,173	65.38%	14,825	62.65%	8,035	33.95%	726	3.07%	78	0.33%
69	9,500	27.69%	24,180	70.48%	618	1.80%	12	0.03%	12,086	36.26%	21,244	63.74%	12,586	61.65%	7,039	34.48%	713	3.49%	76	0.37%
70	7,067	22.31%	23,955	75.61%	659	2.08%	2	0.01%	8,422	27.16%	22,587	72.84%	13,549	72.21%	4,376	23.32%	811	4.32%	27	0.14%
71	18,665	55.39%	14,350	42.59%	674	2.00%	7	0.02%	20,070	60.57%	13,066	39.43%	7,647	40.06%	10,864	56.92%	543	2.84%	34	0.18%
72	21,674	53.70%	17,905	44.36%	772	1.91%	10	0.02%	23,374	58.99%	16,248	41.01%	10,119	40.37%	14,239	56.81%	667	2.66%	39	0.16%
73	9,505	24.55%	28,397	73.35%	803	2.07%	12	0.03%	11,465	30.46%	26,169	69.54%	17,531	67.09%	7,530	28.82%	1,006	3.85%	65	0.25%
74	16,418	42.40%	21,522	55.58%	776	2.00%	8	0.02%	18,401	48.68%	19,399	51.32%	12,557	49.26%	12,172	47.75%	717	2.81%	47	0.18%
75	18,949	49.46%	18,395	48.02%	951	2.48%	13	0.03%	21,218	56.78%	16,152	43.22%	10,016	41.20%	13,559	55.77%	681	2.80%	55	0.23%
76	10,034	30.10%	22,832	68.48%	465	1.39%	10	0.03%	11,347	34.64%	21,414	65.36%	14,429	66.29%	6,432	29.55%	872	4.01%	34	0.16%
77	13,611	36.01%	23,553	62.31%	622	1.65%	12	0.03%	16,157	43.75%	20,773	56.25%	12,656	52.88%	9,931	41.50%	1,291	5.39%	55	0.23%
78	7,417	21.69%	26,189	76.58%	589	1.72%	2	0.01%	8,545	25.56%	24,890	74.44%	15,703	72.92%	4,853	22.54%	935	4.34%	44	0.20%
79	8,469	21.99%	29,407	76.35%	634	1.65%	8	0.02%	10,587	28.06%	27,137	71.94%	17,217	68.42%	6,676	26.53%	1,213	4.82%	57	0.23%
80	8,280	22.99%	27,024	75.04%	703	1.95%	6	0.02%	10,026	28.42%	25,253	71.58%	15,663	71.58%	5,384	24.61%	804	3.67%	30	0.14%
81	9,478	27.29%	24,476	70.48%	769	2.21%	5	0.01%	11,626	34.16%	22,403	65.84%	13,608	64.41%	6,478	30.66%	994	4.70%	48	0.23%
82	10,137	25.28%	29,222	72.86%	747	1.86%	0	0.00%	14,084	36.34%	24,669	63.66%	15,125	59.08%	9,247	36.12%	1,140	4.45%	88	0.34%
83	13,610	37.22%	22,275	60.91%	685	1.87%	0	0.00%	17,095	47.96%	18,547	52.04%	11,161	51.04%	9,805	44.84%	851	3.89%	49	0.22%
84	10,369	28.17%	25,834	70.19%	594	1.61%	8	0.02%	12,890	35.90%	23,016	64.10%	15,527	61.64%	8,043	31.93%	1,547	6.14%	72	0.29%
85	8,720	26.19%	23,735	71.30%	830	2.49%	4	0.01%	10,049	31.44%	21,909	68.56%	14,353	67.23%	5,803	27.18%	1,155	5.41%	37	0.17%
86	9,894	30.27%	22,179	67.86%	597	1.83%	14	0.04%	12,957	40.71%	18,868	59.29%	12,566	56.86%	8,134	36.81%	1,359	6.15%	39	0.18%
87	8,402	24.08%	25,771	73.84%	726	2.08%	0	0.00%	11,079	32.73%	22,771	67.27%	13,309	63.30%	6,258	29.76%	1,381	6.57%	78	0.37%
88	16,818	44.46%	20,248	53.53%	750	1.98%	9	0.02%	21,056	57.67%	15,456	42.33%	8,438	38.08%	13,058	58.94%	626	2.83%	34	0.15%
89	8,637	25.00%	25,338	73.34%	567	1.64%	8	0.02%	11,035	32.69%	22,717	67.31%	13,875	64.20%	6,526	30.20%	1,153	5.33%	58	0.27%
90	8,957	26.79%	23,740	71.00%	729	2.18%	9	0.03%	10,835	33.49%	21,521	66.51%	14,508	64.11%	6,740	29.78%	1,331	5.88%	51	0.23%
91	9,562	26.31%	25,985	71.49%	789	2.17%	12	0.03%	11,519	32.49%	23,939	67.51%	15,804	65.80%	6,667	27.76%	1,466	6.10%	82	0.34%
92	18,297	54.92%	14,391	43.20%	622	1.87%	6	0.02%	21,316	65.42%	11,267	34.58%	6,027	32.50%	11,916	64.25%	566	3.05%	37	0.20%
93	14,589	36.70%	23,616	59.41%	1,532	3.85%	11	0.03%	17,050	44.54%	21,230	55.46%	13,890	52.47%	11,056	41.76%	1,481	5.59%	47	0.18%
94	8,795	23.90%	27,364	74.37%	627	1.70%	7	0.02%	10,916	30.54%	24,830	69.46%	16,087	65.97%	6,660	27.31%	1,554	6.37%	86	0.35%
95	9,674	24.71%	28,753	73.44%	710	1.81%	15	0.04%	12,828	33.76%	25,174	66.24%	15,725	62.10%	8,257	32.61%	1,255	4.96%	84	0.33%
96	9,710	27.99%	24,383	70.28%	596	1.72%	7	0.02%	12,265	36.11%	21,704	63.89%	13,550	60.40%	7,757	34.58%	1,060	4.73%	65	0.29%
97	8,226	22.44%	27,842	75.96%	582	1.59%	5	0.01%	10,866	30.52%	24,732	69.48%	15,844	66.50%	6,685	28.06%	1,232	5.17%	66	0.28%
98	13,952	34.27%	26,026	63.93%	721	1.77%	10	0.02%	18,109	45.97%	21,286	54.03%	12,109	48.68%	12,026	48.35%	661	2.66%	79	0.32%
99	21,774	68.34%	9,411	29.54%	661	2.07%	14	0.04%	24,524	78.36%	6,773	21.64%	2,988	17.88%	13,345	79.86%	362	2.17%	16	0.10%
100	18,780	58.13%	12,965	40.13%	556	1.72%	7	0.02%	21,571	68.08%	10,114	31.92%	5,411	30.04%	12,081	67.08%	475	2.64%	44	0.24%
101	21,604	62.98%	12,086	35.23%	607	1.77%	6	0.02%	24,362	72.63%	9,179	27.37%	4,708	25.39%	13,314	71.80%	490	2.64%	30	0.16%
102	17,138	49.60%	16,850	48.76%	551	1.59%	15	0.04%	20,525	61.13%	13,052	38.87%	7,647	37.36%	12,309	60.13%	494	2.41%	20	0.10%
103	15,163	41.42%	20,780	56.76%	654	1.79%	11	0.03%	18,717	52.63%	16,844	47.37%	9,778	44.54%	11,480	52.29%	650	2.96%	46	0.21%
104	11,337	26.36%	30,974	72.03%	681	1.58%	10	0.02%	15,972	38.34%	25,682	61.66%	14,947	56.07%	10,987	41.21%	683	2.56%	41	0.15%
105	11,010	28.18%	27,492	70.36%	569	1.46%	4	0.01%	15,126	39.77%	22,912	60.23%	12,478	55.05%	9,546	42.12%	600	2.65%	42	0.19%
106	24,309	68.97%	10,177	28.87%	742	2.11%	19	0.05%	27,682	80.41%	6,744	19.59%	3,188	16.36%	15,825	81.22%	451	2.31%	20	0.10%

	Governor 2012: Dalton-McCrory-Howe								Lieutenant Governor 2012: Coleman-Forest				US Senate 2014: Tillis-Hagan-Haugh							
District	Dem	Dem %	Rep	Rep %	Lib	Lib %	Write-In	Write-In %	Dem	Dem %	Rep	Rep %	Rep	Rep %	Dem	Dem %	Lib	Lib %	Write-In	Write-In %
107	22,113	55.98%	16,802	42.54%	576	1.46%	8	0.02%	25,174	65.14%	13,474	34.86%	7,566	32.67%	14,984	64.69%	567	2.45%	45	0.19%
108	10,229	30.60%	22,641	67.73%	553	1.65%	6	0.02%	12,577	38.66%	19,954	61.34%	11,798	58.37%	7,436	36.79%	940	4.65%	37	0.18%
109	11,675	33.74%	22,419	64.79%	501	1.45%	9	0.03%	13,855	41.00%	19,937	59.00%	12,274	57.67%	8,147	38.28%	804	3.78%	59	0.28%
110	10,188	31.08%	22,150	67.56%	443	1.35%	4	0.01%	11,944	37.40%	19,996	62.60%	12,381	60.75%	6,988	34.29%	961	4.72%	49	0.24%
111	10,978	33.85%	21,002	64.75%	447	1.38%	9	0.03%	12,345	39.08%	19,245	60.92%	12,248	58.87%	7,466	35.89%	1,040	5.00%	50	0.24%
112	13,175	40.49%	18,798	57.78%	552	1.70%	10	0.03%	11,934	37.96%	19,505	62.04%	13,356	60.75%	7,327	33.33%	1,273	5.79%	30	0.14%
113	14,513	34.86%	26,056	62.58%	1,053	2.53%	14	0.03%	15,965	39.13%	24,832	60.87%	17,951	56.94%	12,220	38.76%	1,317	4.18%	39	0.12%
114	30,335	67.66%	12,627	28.17%	1,853	4.13%	17	0.04%	32,363	73.64%	11,584	26.36%	6,689	22.11%	22,389	74.02%	1,142	3.78%	29	0.10%
115	18,992	44.03%	22,839	52.94%	1,300	3.01%	8	0.02%	20,704	48.97%	21,574	51.03%	14,095	45.76%	15,408	50.02%	1,262	4.10%	39	0.13%
116	15,055	39.40%	22,073	57.77%	1,069	2.80%	10	0.03%	16,787	44.87%	20,623	55.13%	13,088	50.68%	11,658	45.14%	1,042	4.03%	38	0.15%
117	12,236	33.12%	23,695	64.13%	1,002	2.71%	14	0.04%	13,677	37.80%	22,505	62.20%	14,898	58.54%	9,518	37.40%	995	3.91%	37	0.15%
118	14,554	39.85%	21,033	57.59%	922	2.52%	13	0.04%	15,851	44.59%	19,698	55.41%	14,379	52.35%	11,489	41.83%	1,537	5.60%	61	0.22%
119	14,498	44.69%	16,886	52.05%	1,054	3.25%	2	0.01%	15,958	50.57%	15,600	49.43%	10,500	46.76%	10,697	47.64%	1,217	5.42%	40	0.18%
120	12,098	31.33%	25,139	65.11%	1,357	3.51%	18	0.05%	13,273	35.22%	24,408	64.78%	18,212	62.59%	9,371	32.21%	1,474	5.07%	40	0.14%
Totals:	1,925,270	43.18%	2,437,224	54.67%	94,512	2.12%	1,191	0.03%	2,174,021	49.88%	2,184,891	50.12%	1,416,834	48.84%	1,370,303	47.23%	108,779	3.75%	5,251	0.18%

HSA-1 Jackson Covington Plaintiffs Proposed House Plan: President 2016, US Senate 2016, Governor 2016

	US President 2016: Trump-Clinton-Johnson								US Senate 2016: Burr-Ross-Haugh						Governor 2016: Cooper-McCrory-Cecil					
District	Rep	Rep %	Dem	Dem %	Lib	Lib %	Write-In	Write-In %	Rep	Rep %	Dem	Dem %	Lib	Lib %	Dem	Dem %	Rep	Rep %	Lib	Lib %
1	26,166	63.13%	13,548	32.69%	1,322	3.19%	413	1.00%	25,754	63.45%	13,548	33.38%	1,290	3.18%	14,719	36.08%	25,069	61.45%	1,010	2.48%
2	19,553	51.46%	17,364	45.70%	769	2.02%	313	0.82%	19,385	51.54%	17,169	45.65%	1,060	2.82%	18,270	48.33%	18,957	50.15%	572	1.51%
3	18,589	51.78%	16,455	45.83%	630	1.75%	229	0.64%	18,358	52.14%	16,040	45.56%	811	2.30%	16,170	45.62%	18,855	53.20%	418	1.18%
4	17,762	62.23%	10,151	35.56%	486	1.70%	144	0.50%	17,382	61.84%	9,833	34.98%	894	3.18%	10,143	35.87%	17,736	62.72%	399	1.41%
5	14,071	42.89%	17,840	54.38%	677	2.06%	221	0.67%	13,942	43.33%	17,542	54.52%	690	2.14%	17,723	54.83%	14,115	43.67%	483	1.49%
6	20,227	56.26%	14,693	40.87%	720	2.00%	313	0.87%	19,968	56.34%	14,137	39.89%	1,337	3.77%	14,676	41.13%	20,463	57.35%	541	1.52%
7	19,418	49.98%	18,135	46.68%	887	2.28%	413	1.06%	19,323	50.00%	18,108	46.85%	1,218	3.15%	19,275	49.66%	18,869	48.61%	672	1.73%
8	17,531	45.97%	19,663	51.56%	667	1.75%	274	0.72%	17,641	46.58%	19,435	51.32%	794	2.10%	20,471	53.84%	17,161	45.13%	391	1.03%
9	16,399	43.10%	19,933	52.39%	1,240	3.26%	474	1.25%	17,504	46.46%	18,984	50.38%	1,190	3.16%	20,307	53.74%	16,779	44.40%	705	1.87%
10	17,931	51.92%	15,791	45.72%	570	1.65%	247	0.72%	17,800	52.22%	15,361	45.06%	926	2.72%	15,656	45.66%	18,231	53.17%	401	1.17%
11	10,478	26.91%	25,755	66.15%	1,852	4.76%	848	2.18%	11,919	30.89%	25,082	65.00%	1,586	4.11%	27,072	69.85%	10,435	26.92%	1,250	3.23%
12	22,047	63.02%	11,701	33.44%	916	2.62%	322	0.92%	22,086	63.74%	11,254	32.48%	1,311	3.78%	11,993	34.52%	22,073	63.53%	677	1.95%
13	29,527	68.85%	11,999	27.98%	967	2.25%	396	0.92%	29,080	68.53%	11,666	27.49%	1,685	3.97%	12,730	29.84%	29,076	68.17%	849	1.99%
14	14,902	56.33%	10,415	39.37%	862	3.26%	278	1.05%	14,737	56.62%	10,012	38.46%	1,280	4.92%	10,438	39.99%	14,935	57.22%	728	2.79%
15	16,678	72.54%	5,229	22.74%	838	3.64%	247	1.07%	16,069	71.29%	5,195	23.05%	1,275	5.66%	5,589	24.70%	16,285	71.97%	755	3.34%
16	25,478	63.98%	13,238	33.24%	859	2.16%	248	0.62%	24,571	62.85%	12,953	33.13%	1,571	4.02%	14,322	36.50%	24,065	61.33%	853	2.17%
17	33,539	64.40%	16,832	32.32%	1,227	2.36%	480	0.92%	32,987	64.27%	16,223	31.61%	2,112	4.12%	18,326	35.57%	32,038	62.18%	1,162	2.26%
18	14,960	39.11%	21,515	56.25%	1,247	3.26%	530	1.39%	15,065	40.15%	20,714	55.20%	1,747	4.66%	22,540	59.77%	14,028	37.20%	1,146	3.04%
19	24,349	55.45%	17,494	39.84%	1,461	3.33%	604	1.38%	24,444	56.44%	16,799	38.79%	2,068	4.77%	19,932	45.80%	22,351	51.36%	1,232	2.83%
20	25,197	54.81%	18,393	40.01%	1,731	3.77%	651	1.42%	25,753	56.83%	17,604	38.84%	1,962	4.33%	20,831	45.79%	23,400	51.43%	1,266	2.78%
21	15,884	45.84%	17,954	51.82%	555	1.60%	257	0.74%	15,924	46.50%	17,482	51.05%	837	2.44%	17,741	51.55%	16,206	47.09%	465	1.35%
22	18,724	52.68%	16,142	45.41%	486	1.37%	192	0.54%	18,421	52.64%	15,813	45.19%	758	2.17%	16,261	46.15%	18,596	52.78%	379	1.08%
23	14,143	38.43%	22,040	59.88%	449	1.22%	173	0.47%	14,165	38.89%	21,496	59.02%	760	2.09%	21,917	59.87%	14,389	39.30%	303	0.83%
24	14,808	43.49%	18,200	53.45%	749	2.20%	292	0.86%	15,197	45.16%	17,509	52.02%	949	2.82%	17,897	52.97%	15,398	45.57%	494	1.46%
25	20,269	51.73%	17,974	45.88%	640	1.63%	297	0.76%	20,406	52.29%	17,865	45.78%	753	1.93%	19,220	49.08%	19,517	49.84%	424	1.08%
26	29,759	61.06%	16,850	34.57%	1,565	3.21%	561	1.15%	29,832	61.64%	16,736	34.58%	1,830	3.78%	18,664	38.41%	28,962	59.60%	970	2.00%
27	12,504	36.17%	21,573	62.40%	373	1.08%	123	0.36%	12,390	36.15%	21,326	62.22%	557	1.63%	21,783	63.37%	12,336	35.89%	256	0.74%
28	22,938	64.82%	11,488	32.46%	716	2.02%	245	0.69%	22,642	64.44%	11,449	32.59%	1,043	2.97%	12,317	34.87%	22,495	63.68%	513	1.45%
29	5,509	11.11%	42,101	84.89%	1,191	2.40%	791	1.60%	7,315	14.82%	41,040	83.15%	1,000	2.03%	42,314	85.66%	6,328	12.81%	758	1.53%
30	10,474	22.13%	34,760	73.45%	1,267	2.68%	825	1.74%	12,373	26.33%	33,469	71.22%	1,150	2.45%	34,935	74.26%	11,283	23.98%	824	1.75%
31	9,900	21.58%	34,205	74.56%	1,114	2.43%	654	1.43%	10,806	23.69%	33,667	73.80%	1,148	2.52%	34,565	75.57%	10,408	22.75%	767	1.68%
32	15,770	40.65%	22,026	56.77%	687	1.77%	313	0.81%	15,849	41.21%	21,752	56.56%	855	2.22%	22,399	58.02%	15,721	40.72%	485	1.26%
33	11,445	27.39%	28,609	68.46%	1,208	2.89%	529	1.27%	12,023	28.95%	28,311	68.17%	1,199	2.89%	29,213	70.13%	11,637	27.94%	807	1.94%
34	19,185	38.43%	27,905	55.90%	1,906	3.82%	925	1.85%	22,002	44.17%	26,387	52.98%	1,418	2.85%	29,373	58.81%	19,579	39.20%	994	1.99%
35	19,070	39.48%	26,755	55.40%	1,602	3.32%	871	1.80%	20,767	43.30%	25,714	53.62%	1,478	3.08%	27,655	57.47%	19,426	40.37%	1,043	2.17%
36	23,934	45.04%	26,200	49.31%	2,063	3.88%	937	1.76%	26,466	50.03%	24,702	46.69%	1,733	3.28%	27,726	52.22%	24,204	45.59%	1,160	2.18%
37	27,546	50.19%	24,032	43.79%	2,338	4.26%	970	1.77%	29,421	53.94%	23,110	42.37%	2,011	3.69%	25,921	47.33%	27,466	50.15%	1,382	2.52%
38	8,228	19.19%	32,872	76.68%	1,127	2.63%	642	1.50%	9,544	22.38%	32,024	75.08%	1,084	2.54%	33,391	78.08%	8,607	20.13%	765	1.79%
39	18,871	40.27%	25,892	55.25%	1,419	3.03%	679	1.45%	19,613	42.10%	25,494	54.72%	1,484	3.19%	26,880	57.44%	19,020	40.64%	899	1.92%
40	21,021	42.71%	25,264	51.33%	1,929	3.92%	1,002	2.04%	23,623	48.27%	23,777	48.59%	1,535	3.14%	26,613	54.15%	21,445	43.64%	1,088	2.21%
41	19,304	38.04%	28,542	56.24%	1,994	3.93%	912	1.80%	22,379	44.47%	26,450	52.56%	1,491	2.96%	29,340	58.05%	20,008	39.59%	1,194	2.36%
42	8,449	34.48%	14,980	61.14%	777	3.17%	295	1.20%	8,691	35.87%	14,657	60.49%	883	3.64%	14,750	60.94%	8,808	36.39%	646	2.67%
43	14,056	40.47%	19,632	56.52%	743	2.14%	304	0.88%	14,084	41.08%	19,233	56.09%	971	2.83%	19,247	56.00%	14,472	42.11%	651	1.89%
44	13,221	40.63%	18,084	55.58%	908	2.79%	325	1.00%	13,488	42.00%	17,465	54.38%	1,161	3.62%	17,877	55.52%	13,568	42.14%	752	2.34%
45	15,539	43.49%	18,909	52.92%	945	2.64%	339	0.95%	15,639	44.34%	18,378	52.11%	1,251	3.55%	18,575	52.55%	15,914	45.02%	860	2.43%
46	14,802	51.62%	13,346	46.54%	386	1.35%	141	0.49%	14,219	50.86%	13,070	46.75%	669	2.39%	13,163	46.67%	14,740	52.27%	299	1.06%
47	12,268	51.90%	10,649	45.05%	539	2.28%	180	0.76%	11,703	51.02%	10,767	46.94%	469	2.04%	10,365	44.45%	12,733	54.60%	222	0.95%
48	14,016	43.58%	17,045	53.00%	831	2.58%	266	0.83%	13,782	43.73%	16,722	53.06%	1,010	3.20%	17,039	53.91%	13,890	43.94%	679	2.15%
49	17,000	33.36%	30,910	60.65%	2,022	3.97%	1,031	2.02%	20,032	39.45%	29,235	57.57%	1,515	2.98%	32,371	63.49%	17,529	34.38%	1,082	2.12%
50	18,304	40.61%	25,018	55.50%	1,207	2.68%	547	1.21%	19,154	42.76%	24,338	54.33%	1,302	2.91%	26,044	58.01%	18,041	40.18%	814	1.81%
51	18,866	55.80%	13,663	40.41%	972	2.87%	311	0.92%	18,563	55.47%	13,660	40.82%	1,241	3.71%	14,805	44.04%	18,018	53.59%	797	2.37%
52	26,508	61.46%	14,902	34.55%	1,240	2.87%	482	1.12%	26,850	62.67%	14,595	34.07%	1,396	3.26%	16,149	37.60%	25,907	60.32%	893	2.08%

HSA-1 Jackson Covington Plaintiffs Proposed House Plan: President 2016, US Senate 2016, Governor 2016

	US President 2016: Trump-Clinton-Johnson								US Senate 2016: Burr-Ross-Haugh						Governor 2016: Cooper-McCrory-Cecil					
District	Rep	Rep %	Dem	Dem %	Lib	Lib %	Write-In	Write-In %	Rep	Rep %	Dem	Dem %	Lib	Lib %	Dem	Dem %	Rep	Rep %	Lib	Lib %
53	21,247	60.80%	12,407	35.50%	933	2.67%	358	1.02%	21,052	60.67%	12,435	35.83%	1,215	3.50%	13,074	37.62%	20,917	60.19%	762	2.19%
54	19,492	37.13%	30,645	58.38%	1,545	2.94%	809	1.54%	21,169	40.48%	29,679	56.76%	1,444	2.76%	31,838	60.66%	19,672	37.48%	979	1.87%
55	22,840	63.50%	12,002	33.37%	788	2.19%	336	0.93%	22,508	63.37%	11,758	33.10%	1,252	3.52%	12,330	34.49%	22,863	63.95%	559	1.56%
56	6,280	12.99%	39,697	82.13%	1,411	2.92%	947	1.96%	8,722	18.19%	38,210	79.67%	1,028	2.14%	40,335	83.95%	6,875	14.31%	834	1.74%
57	15,339	31.88%	30,307	63.00%	1,561	3.24%	901	1.87%	17,404	36.40%	28,994	60.64%	1,415	2.96%	31,958	66.71%	14,911	31.12%	1,039	2.17%
58	16,410	37.72%	25,779	59.25%	903	2.08%	417	0.96%	16,673	38.67%	25,300	58.68%	1,143	2.65%	26,619	61.56%	15,831	36.61%	794	1.84%
59	14,037	33.81%	26,129	62.93%	868	2.09%	486	1.17%	14,710	35.83%	25,249	61.50%	1,098	2.67%	26,736	64.96%	13,662	33.19%	759	1.84%
60	10,889	31.31%	22,909	65.86%	669	1.92%	316	0.91%	11,095	32.36%	22,137	64.57%	1,053	3.07%	23,107	67.17%	10,584	30.77%	709	2.06%
61	17,273	41.56%	22,439	53.99%	1,305	3.14%	544	1.31%	17,970	43.73%	21,659	52.71%	1,463	3.56%	23,652	57.40%	16,555	40.17%	1,002	2.43%
62	23,871	50.61%	21,206	44.96%	1,425	3.02%	663	1.41%	25,249	53.92%	20,118	42.96%	1,464	3.13%	23,122	49.29%	22,714	48.42%	1,073	2.29%
63	19,745	52.91%	16,215	43.45%	964	2.58%	397	1.06%	20,099	54.24%	15,711	42.39%	1,249	3.37%	17,448	46.93%	19,042	51.22%	687	1.85%
64	19,070	56.36%	13,618	40.25%	831	2.46%	317	0.94%	19,281	57.45%	13,162	39.22%	1,119	3.33%	14,584	43.35%	18,459	54.87%	596	1.77%
65	23,874	63.31%	12,783	33.90%	750	1.99%	301	0.80%	23,327	62.43%	12,716	34.03%	1,320	3.53%	14,599	38.96%	22,137	59.08%	731	1.95%
66	19,182	55.82%	14,374	41.83%	618	1.80%	190	0.55%	18,159	53.79%	14,329	42.44%	1,271	3.76%	15,373	45.12%	18,132	53.22%	563	1.65%
67	31,774	78.70%	7,458	18.47%	858	2.13%	285	0.71%	30,272	75.65%	7,691	19.22%	2,055	5.14%	9,136	22.71%	30,251	75.21%	837	2.08%
68	25,357	58.90%	15,581	36.19%	1,519	3.53%	593	1.38%	26,537	62.36%	14,300	33.60%	1,717	4.03%	16,268	38.02%	25,525	59.65%	1,000	2.34%
69	23,008	61.78%	12,620	33.89%	1,151	3.09%	461	1.24%	23,224	63.20%	11,858	32.27%	1,667	4.54%	13,180	35.64%	22,857	61.81%	941	2.54%
70	25,245	74.51%	7,544	22.27%	779	2.30%	312	0.92%	24,601	73.23%	7,505	22.34%	1,490	4.44%	9,245	27.45%	23,609	70.11%	821	2.44%
71	13,635	39.93%	19,302	56.52%	887	2.60%	325	0.95%	13,947	41.27%	18,729	55.42%	1,120	3.31%	20,117	59.42%	12,923	38.17%	814	2.40%
72	16,536	40.42%	22,931	56.06%	1,023	2.50%	416	1.02%	17,265	42.56%	22,120	54.53%	1,179	2.91%	23,780	58.62%	15,900	39.20%	883	2.18%
73	27,145	66.61%	11,873	29.13%	1,193	2.93%	544	1.33%	28,098	69.22%	11,133	27.43%	1,360	3.35%	13,855	34.07%	26,001	63.93%	813	2.00%
74	18,083	45.29%	19,890	49.82%	1,290	3.23%	660	1.65%	19,935	50.12%	18,608	46.79%	1,229	3.09%	21,232	53.36%	17,694	44.47%	867	2.18%
75	14,472	35.99%	23,616	58.72%	1,380	3.43%	748	1.86%	16,478	41.16%	22,231	55.53%	1,323	3.30%	24,725	61.75%	14,344	35.83%	969	2.42%
76	23,583	68.17%	10,042	29.03%	709	2.05%	259	0.75%	23,254	67.95%	9,988	29.19%	980	2.86%	10,643	30.91%	23,317	67.73%	467	1.36%
77	22,653	58.76%	14,526	37.68%	942	2.44%	430	1.12%	21,992	57.68%	14,286	37.47%	1,849	4.85%	15,680	40.87%	21,678	56.51%	1,003	2.61%
78	28,166	77.69%	7,076	19.52%	739	2.04%	272	0.75%	27,319	76.13%	7,166	19.97%	1,402	3.91%	8,771	24.33%	26,543	73.63%	737	2.04%
79	29,942	73.53%	9,286	22.80%	1,072	2.63%	423	1.04%	29,302	72.54%	9,165	22.69%	1,930	4.78%	11,170	27.53%	28,433	70.08%	972	2.40%
80	28,033	74.04%	8,623	22.78%	918	2.42%	287	0.76%	27,677	73.76%	8,454	22.53%	1,394	3.71%	10,385	27.55%	26,519	70.35%	793	2.10%
81	26,284	71.05%	9,486	25.64%	941	2.54%	284	0.77%	25,858	70.60%	9,299	25.39%	1,469	4.01%	11,560	31.43%	24,341	66.17%	883	2.40%
82	27,357	60.06%	16,132	35.42%	1,481	3.25%	580	1.27%	27,389	60.67%	15,634	34.63%	2,123	4.70%	17,469	38.47%	26,795	59.01%	1,144	2.52%
83	20,799	51.18%	18,161	44.69%	1,163	2.86%	513	1.26%	20,807	51.80%	17,398	43.31%	1,966	4.89%	18,929	46.85%	20,329	50.31%	1,147	2.84%
84	25,864	67.41%	11,302	29.46%	842	2.19%	358	0.93%	24,946	65.81%	11,099	29.28%	1,862	4.91%	12,373	32.46%	24,857	65.22%	885	2.32%
85	27,148	74.95%	7,952	21.95%	700	1.93%	421	1.16%	25,691	72.23%	8,320	23.39%	1,555	4.37%	9,999	27.89%	24,896	69.44%	959	2.67%
86	23,049	66.31%	10,412	29.95%	895	2.57%	404	1.16%	22,151	64.58%	10,580	30.84%	1,571	4.58%	12,309	35.59%	21,505	62.18%	773	2.23%
87	26,621	73.29%	8,427	23.20%	849	2.34%	425	1.17%	25,537	71.08%	8,542	23.78%	1,847	5.14%	10,059	27.82%	25,176	69.62%	927	2.56%
88	12,827	31.62%	25,221	62.17%	1,765	4.35%	755	1.86%	15,657	39.06%	22,959	57.28%	1,467	3.66%	25,756	63.87%	13,520	33.53%	1,049	2.60%
89	25,622	70.69%	9,396	25.92%	904	2.49%	322	0.89%	24,664	68.94%	9,348	26.13%	1,762	4.93%	10,714	29.78%	24,387	67.78%	880	2.45%
90	27,166	74.32%	8,211	22.46%	816	2.23%	360	0.98%	26,388	73.10%	8,275	22.92%	1,434	3.97%	10,487	28.88%	25,104	69.13%	725	2.00%
91	28,820	75.01%	8,346	21.72%	926	2.41%	332	0.86%	28,090	73.54%	8,533	22.34%	1,574	4.12%	10,870	28.41%	26,536	69.34%	861	2.25%
92	11,525	30.09%	25,014	65.31%	1,272	3.32%	490	1.28%	12,471	33.03%	23,695	62.75%	1,592	4.22%	24,819	65.44%	12,044	31.76%	1,062	2.80%
93	23,108	53.24%	17,638	40.63%	1,667	3.84%	994	2.29%	23,511	54.86%	17,413	40.63%	1,936	4.52%	19,952	46.21%	21,906	50.74%	1,316	3.05%
94	29,067	74.45%	8,728	22.36%	895	2.29%	351	0.90%	27,906	72.25%	8,905	23.06%	1,812	4.69%	10,706	27.47%	27,452	70.45%	810	2.08%
95	28,890	65.36%	13,432	30.39%	1,343	3.04%	536	1.21%	28,179	64.55%	13,088	29.98%	2,386	5.47%	16,212	37.00%	26,066	59.50%	1,534	3.50%
96	22,685	62.88%	11,805	32.72%	1,069	2.96%	516	1.43%	22,549	63.28%	11,383	31.95%	1,699	4.77%	13,036	36.38%	21,866	61.02%	935	2.61%
97	28,804	71.97%	9,897	24.73%	971	2.43%	349	0.87%	27,868	70.41%	9,798	24.76%	1,913	4.83%	11,331	28.44%	27,557	69.16%	959	2.41%
98	20,952	44.97%	23,199	49.80%	1,711	3.67%	725	1.56%	22,463	48.72%	21,868	47.43%	1,774	3.85%	24,921	53.88%	19,921	43.07%	1,415	3.06%
99	6,322	18.41%	26,597	77.43%	914	2.66%	516	1.50%	6,906	20.36%	25,850	76.22%	1,157	3.41%	26,395	77.56%	6,776	19.91%	860	2.53%
100	9,922	30.07%	21,781	66.01%	868	2.63%	428	1.30%	10,283	31.56%	21,030	64.55%	1,266	3.89%	21,613	66.05%	10,354	31.64%	757	2.31%
101	8,761	24.34%	25,744	71.53%	1,034	2.87%	452	1.26%	9,545	26.88%	24,625	69.35%	1,338	3.77%	25,666	72.02%	9,042	25.37%	931	2.61%
102	9,880	28.47%	22,962	66.16%	1,193	3.44%	674	1.94%	12,487	36.27%	20,856	60.58%	1,086	3.15%	22,731	65.78%	11,053	31.99%	772	2.23%
103	15,073	40.39%	20,415	54.71%	1,231	3.30%	599	1.61%	16,109	43.57%	19,381	52.42%	1,485	4.02%	20,677	55.59%	15,594	41.92%	925	2.49%
104	20,547	46.95%	20,629	47.14%	1,693	3.87%	896	2.05%	23,408	53.82%	18,581	42.72%	1,504	3.46%	21,135	48.38%	21,575	49.39%	975	2.23%
105	19,128	46.32%	20,137	48.76%	1,408	3.41%	625	1.51%	21,375	52.27%	18,006	44.03%	1,510	3.69%	20,301	49.41%	19,784	48.15%	1,000	2.43%

HSA-1 Jackson Covington Plaintiffs Proposed House Plan: President 2016, US Senate 2016, Governor 2016

	US President 2016: Trump-Clinton-Johnson								US Senate 2016: Burr-Ross-Haugh						Governor 2016: Cooper-McCrory-Cecil					
District	Rep	Rep %	Dem	Dem %	Lib	Lib %	Write-In	Write-In %	Rep	Rep %	Dem	Dem %	Lib	Lib %	Dem	Dem %	Rep	Rep %	Lib	Lib %
106	5,853	15.99%	29,102	79.50%	1,120	3.06%	531	1.45%	6,878	19.04%	27,928	77.33%	1,311	3.63%	29,087	80.09%	6,309	17.37%	923	2.54%
107	13,088	31.10%	27,278	64.82%	1,161	2.76%	555	1.32%	13,959	33.57%	26,121	62.82%	1,500	3.61%	27,803	66.62%	12,784	30.63%	1,148	2.75%
108	21,977	61.91%	12,155	34.24%	963	2.71%	405	1.14%	21,400	61.05%	11,934	34.04%	1,722	4.91%	13,133	37.22%	21,326	60.44%	824	2.34%
109	21,849	58.81%	13,856	37.29%	1,026	2.76%	424	1.14%	21,752	59.21%	13,385	36.43%	1,600	4.36%	14,614	39.57%	21,473	58.14%	845	2.29%
110	23,363	67.95%	10,064	29.27%	685	1.99%	272	0.79%	22,465	66.14%	10,103	29.74%	1,399	4.12%	11,006	32.21%	22,520	65.90%	648	1.90%
111	23,088	67.78%	10,066	29.55%	621	1.82%	290	0.85%	22,172	65.93%	10,185	30.29%	1,272	3.78%	11,069	32.68%	22,235	65.64%	569	1.68%
112	25,060	72.71%	8,351	24.23%	717	2.08%	339	0.98%	23,380	69.04%	9,131	26.96%	1,353	4.00%	10,575	31.07%	22,633	66.49%	831	2.44%
113	27,846	61.60%	15,495	34.27%	1,152	2.55%	715	1.58%	27,107	60.73%	15,907	35.64%	1,619	3.63%	17,776	39.74%	25,806	57.69%	1,150	2.57%
114	10,675	21.88%	35,226	72.20%	1,424	2.92%	1,464	3.00%	10,943	22.71%	35,335	73.32%	1,918	3.98%	36,921	76.30%	9,880	20.42%	1,589	3.28%
115	22,578	48.02%	21,856	46.49%	1,453	3.09%	1,127	2.40%	22,563	48.39%	22,221	47.66%	1,839	3.94%	24,377	52.10%	21,034	44.95%	1,382	2.95%
116	22,462	52.07%	18,367	42.57%	1,409	3.27%	903	2.09%	22,583	52.90%	18,335	42.95%	1,776	4.16%	20,574	48.00%	20,962	48.91%	1,323	3.09%
117	25,251	60.45%	14,625	35.01%	1,235	2.96%	660	1.58%	24,962	60.51%	14,605	35.40%	1,688	4.09%	16,583	40.08%	23,567	56.96%	1,227	2.97%
118	25,826	63.62%	13,002	32.03%	1,152	2.84%	616	1.52%	24,143	60.30%	14,050	35.09%	1,845	4.61%	16,169	40.08%	22,971	56.94%	1,202	2.98%
119	19,623	54.48%	14,434	40.08%	1,323	3.67%	637	1.77%	18,853	53.03%	15,016	42.24%	1,683	4.73%	17,194	48.15%	17,362	48.62%	1,156	3.24%
120	30,691	72.91%	9,871	23.45%	1,030	2.45%	501	1.19%	28,591	69.53%	10,931	26.58%	1,600	3.89%	12,825	31.06%	27,221	65.92%	1,249	3.02%
Totals:	2,359,749	49.90%	2,180,316	46.10%	129,929	2.75%	59,397	1.26%	2,392,439	51.13%	2,119,696	45.30%	167,190	3.57%	2,300,381	48.95%	2,296,039	48.86%	102,729	2.19%

HSA-1 Jackson Covington Plaintiffs Proposed House Plan: Lieutenant Governor 2016, Attorney General 2016

	Lieutenant Governor 2016: Forest-Coleman-Cole						Attorney General 2016: Stein-Newton			
District	Rep	Rep %	Dem	Dem %	Lib	Lib %	Dem	Dem %	Rep	Rep %
1	24,969	62.46%	13,748	34.39%	1,261	3.15%	14,523	36.89%	24,849	63.11%
2	19,216	51.97%	16,973	45.91%	784	2.12%	18,822	51.49%	17,733	48.51%
3	17,778	51.12%	16,328	46.95%	671	1.93%	17,047	49.85%	17,149	50.15%
4	17,089	61.86%	9,924	35.92%	613	2.22%	10,852	39.77%	16,434	60.23%
5	13,598	42.70%	17,580	55.21%	665	2.09%	18,195	57.96%	13,195	42.04%
6	19,717	56.38%	14,450	41.32%	804	2.30%	15,359	44.32%	19,298	55.68%
7	19,438	50.77%	18,041	47.12%	807	2.11%	19,561	51.47%	18,443	48.53%
8	17,614	46.94%	19,307	51.45%	603	1.61%	20,220	53.88%	17,311	46.12%
9	17,140	46.39%	18,709	50.63%	1,100	2.98%	20,069	54.74%	16,595	45.26%
10	17,540	52.00%	15,567	46.15%	622	1.84%	16,476	49.37%	16,898	50.63%
11	11,890	31.48%	24,063	63.70%	1,820	4.82%	26,310	70.28%	11,124	29.72%
12	21,769	63.78%	11,476	33.62%	888	2.60%	12,384	36.63%	21,424	63.37%
13	28,811	68.95%	11,868	28.40%	1,107	2.65%	12,793	30.86%	28,667	69.14%
14	14,266	56.00%	10,158	39.87%	1,052	4.13%	10,920	43.36%	14,266	56.64%
15	15,938	72.47%	5,083	23.11%	973	4.42%	5,914	27.24%	15,797	72.76%
16	24,606	63.95%	12,937	33.62%	933	2.42%	15,072	39.60%	22,990	60.40%
17	33,147	65.60%	16,131	31.92%	1,254	2.48%	19,137	38.21%	30,944	61.79%
18	15,040	40.84%	20,340	55.23%	1,451	3.94%	22,453	61.46%	14,080	38.54%
19	24,414	57.61%	16,318	38.51%	1,644	3.88%	19,234	45.77%	22,791	54.23%
20	25,574	57.77%	17,001	38.41%	1,690	3.82%	19,782	45.08%	24,099	54.92%
21	15,757	46.66%	17,383	51.47%	633	1.87%	18,361	54.85%	15,115	45.15%
22	17,728	51.62%	16,063	46.77%	551	1.60%	17,227	50.58%	16,832	49.42%
23	13,735	38.22%	21,664	60.28%	537	1.49%	22,629	63.31%	13,112	36.69%
24	14,855	44.66%	17,704	53.23%	702	2.11%	18,480	56.00%	14,521	44.00%
25	20,390	52.71%	17,726	45.82%	566	1.46%	18,761	48.52%	19,907	51.48%
26	30,238	63.26%	16,187	33.87%	1,372	2.87%	18,464	38.98%	28,907	61.02%
27	12,111	35.73%	21,357	63.01%	427	1.26%	22,185	65.86%	11,500	34.14%
28	22,836	65.80%	11,124	32.05%	745	2.15%	12,775	37.20%	21,563	62.80%
29	7,145	14.65%	40,458	82.98%	1,156	2.37%	41,977	86.48%	6,561	13.52%
30	12,291	26.61%	32,680	70.76%	1,216	2.63%	34,602	75.34%	11,323	24.66%
31	10,743	23.78%	33,238	73.56%	1,201	2.66%	34,658	77.14%	10,268	22.86%
32	15,672	41.26%	21,660	57.03%	650	1.71%	23,002	61.08%	14,659	38.92%
33	12,096	29.41%	27,892	67.81%	1,145	2.78%	29,354	72.03%	11,400	27.97%
34	22,115	44.99%	25,590	52.06%	1,446	2.94%	28,783	59.08%	19,935	40.92%
35	21,222	44.76%	24,817	52.34%	1,372	2.89%	27,089	57.84%	19,748	42.16%
36	26,350	50.67%	24,015	46.18%	1,643	3.16%	26,733	51.84%	24,839	48.16%
37	29,430	54.89%	22,391	41.76%	1,798	3.35%	24,945	47.01%	28,117	52.99%
38	9,450	22.45%	31,445	74.72%	1,190	2.83%	33,201	79.48%	8,574	20.52%
39	19,712	42.71%	25,245	54.69%	1,200	2.60%	26,928	58.97%	18,735	41.03%
40	23,707	49.23%	22,896	47.54%	1,554	3.23%	25,469	53.43%	22,198	46.57%
41	21,959	44.57%	25,747	52.26%	1,561	3.17%	28,145	57.58%	20,734	42.42%
42	8,512	35.65%	14,515	60.79%	851	3.56%	15,264	64.32%	8,469	35.68%
43	13,865	41.06%	18,974	56.19%	931	2.76%	20,082	59.91%	13,440	40.09%
44	13,157	41.65%	17,378	55.02%	1,051	3.33%	18,598	59.14%	12,852	40.86%
45	15,199	43.75%	18,257	52.55%	1,287	3.70%	19,429	56.18%	15,156	43.82%
46	13,342	48.62%	13,591	49.53%	508	1.85%	14,737	54.22%	12,444	45.78%
47	10,461	46.95%	11,299	50.71%	522	2.34%	12,263	55.70%	9,755	44.30%
48	13,005	42.20%	16,855	54.69%	958	3.11%	17,475	57.21%	13,069	42.79%
49	19,844	39.69%	28,451	56.91%	1,700	3.40%	31,658	63.79%	17,972	36.21%
50	19,122	43.28%	23,986	54.29%	1,070	2.42%	25,858	58.98%	17,981	41.02%
51	18,642	56.37%	13,518	40.87%	912	2.76%	15,229	46.62%	17,439	53.38%
52	26,962	63.92%	14,147	33.54%	1,075	2.55%	15,745	37.70%	26,021	62.30%

HSA-1 Jackson Covington Plaintiffs Proposed House Plan: Lieutenant Governor 2016, Attorney General 2016

	Lieutenant Governor 2016: Forest-Coleman-Cole						Attorney General 2016: Stein-Newton			
District	Rep	Rep %	Dem	Dem %	Lib	Lib %	Dem	Dem %	Rep	Rep %
53	21,216	61.71%	12,252	35.64%	913	2.66%	13,668	40.07%	20,445	59.93%
54	21,038	40.77%	29,281	56.74%	1,285	2.49%	31,512	61.45%	19,770	38.55%
55	22,921	65.35%	11,444	32.63%	707	2.02%	13,375	38.47%	21,391	61.53%
56	8,394	17.90%	37,050	79.01%	1,451	3.09%	38,840	83.20%	7,845	16.80%
57	16,927	36.07%	28,409	60.54%	1,587	3.38%	30,740	65.91%	15,902	34.09%
58	16,481	38.64%	25,164	59.00%	1,008	2.36%	26,491	62.44%	15,934	37.56%
59	14,415	35.59%	25,054	61.86%	1,030	2.54%	26,274	65.29%	13,971	34.71%
60	10,856	32.13%	22,000	65.11%	934	2.76%	23,046	68.52%	10,590	31.48%
61	17,817	44.08%	21,264	52.61%	1,340	3.32%	23,115	57.48%	17,098	42.52%
62	24,966	54.32%	19,643	42.74%	1,350	2.94%	21,773	47.61%	23,960	52.39%
63	20,032	54.75%	15,433	42.18%	1,125	3.07%	17,264	47.50%	19,085	52.50%
64	19,368	58.48%	12,814	38.69%	936	2.83%	14,428	43.87%	18,457	56.13%
65	22,926	62.43%	12,921	35.19%	873	2.38%	14,424	39.52%	22,071	60.48%
66	17,823	53.87%	14,459	43.70%	803	2.43%	16,102	49.02%	16,748	50.98%
67	31,133	79.07%	7,250	18.41%	992	2.52%	9,904	25.38%	29,119	74.62%
68	27,015	64.52%	13,606	32.49%	1,252	2.99%	15,674	37.79%	25,803	62.21%
69	23,744	65.63%	11,331	31.32%	1,104	3.05%	13,327	37.18%	22,517	62.82%
70	24,712	74.71%	7,488	22.64%	879	2.66%	8,822	26.83%	24,059	73.17%
71	13,720	41.22%	18,648	56.03%	914	2.75%	19,985	60.36%	13,127	39.64%
72	16,958	42.57%	21,814	54.76%	1,063	2.67%	23,363	58.96%	16,262	41.04%
73	27,910	69.94%	11,033	27.65%	960	2.41%	13,276	33.52%	26,333	66.48%
74	19,410	49.68%	18,562	47.51%	1,098	2.81%	20,718	53.25%	18,189	46.75%
75	15,713	40.07%	22,221	56.66%	1,282	3.27%	24,291	62.17%	14,784	37.83%
76	23,378	69.28%	9,764	28.93%	603	1.79%	11,224	33.53%	22,247	66.47%
77	22,462	59.73%	14,031	37.31%	1,111	2.95%	16,416	43.96%	20,925	56.04%
78	27,573	77.81%	7,048	19.89%	814	2.30%	8,576	24.38%	26,597	75.62%
79	29,605	74.48%	9,051	22.77%	1,094	2.75%	11,261	28.49%	28,265	71.51%
80	27,461	74.39%	8,544	23.14%	912	2.47%	9,959	27.05%	26,856	72.95%
81	25,744	71.35%	9,365	25.95%	974	2.70%	11,232	31.27%	24,684	68.73%
82	28,012	63.03%	15,070	33.91%	1,360	3.06%	17,394	39.51%	26,629	60.49%
83	21,218	53.59%	16,980	42.89%	1,393	3.52%	19,153	48.77%	20,120	51.23%
84	25,615	68.55%	10,772	28.83%	981	2.63%	12,983	35.05%	24,055	64.95%
85	25,753	73.78%	8,159	23.37%	995	2.85%	9,757	28.36%	24,643	71.64%
86	22,615	66.72%	10,457	30.85%	824	2.43%	12,699	37.72%	20,964	62.28%
87	26,540	74.72%	8,133	22.90%	848	2.39%	11,035	31.39%	24,120	68.61%
88	15,721	40.06%	22,011	56.09%	1,508	3.84%	24,346	62.46%	14,632	37.54%
89	25,345	71.91%	8,879	25.19%	1,023	2.90%	11,207	31.97%	23,846	68.03%
90	25,889	73.23%	8,636	24.43%	827	2.34%	10,435	29.66%	24,749	70.34%
91	27,569	73.64%	8,883	23.73%	984	2.63%	10,714	28.75%	26,554	71.25%
92	12,634	33.97%	23,087	62.08%	1,467	3.94%	24,927	67.47%	12,016	32.53%
93	23,009	55.17%	16,926	40.58%	1,774	4.25%	19,469	47.25%	21,733	52.75%
94	28,339	74.52%	8,786	23.10%	902	2.37%	11,305	30.02%	26,354	69.98%
95	28,982	67.70%	12,360	28.87%	1,470	3.43%	14,947	35.22%	27,490	64.78%
96	23,121	65.77%	10,946	31.14%	1,089	3.10%	13,281	38.01%	21,662	61.99%
97	28,690	73.47%	9,283	23.77%	1,078	2.76%	11,903	30.76%	26,797	69.24%
98	22,994	50.76%	20,803	45.92%	1,504	3.32%	23,259	51.83%	21,618	48.17%
99	6,988	20.88%	25,282	75.55%	1,194	3.57%	26,477	79.59%	6,790	20.41%
100	10,507	32.61%	20,671	64.16%	1,040	3.23%	22,000	68.82%	9,969	31.18%
101	9,551	27.30%	24,127	68.96%	1,307	3.74%	25,631	73.64%	9,173	26.36%
102	12,268	36.30%	20,418	60.41%	1,112	3.29%	22,189	66.14%	11,359	33.86%
103	16,620	45.57%	18,583	50.95%	1,271	3.48%	20,751	57.41%	15,395	42.59%
104	23,974	56.01%	17,590	41.10%	1,239	2.89%	20,359	48.00%	22,058	52.00%

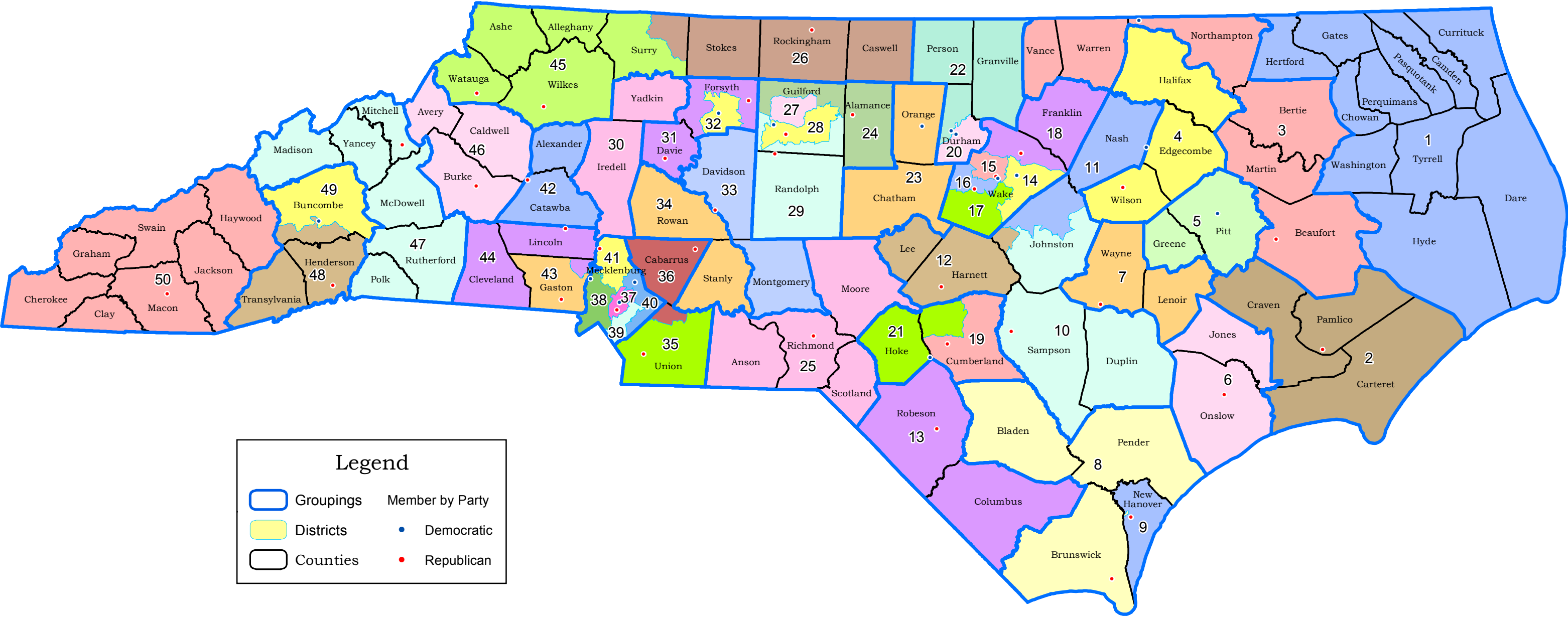
HSA-1 Jackson Covington Plaintiffs Proposed House Plan: Lieutenant Governor 2016, Attorney General 2016

	Lieutenant Governor 2016: Forest-Coleman-Cole						Attorney General 2016: Stein-Newton			
District	Rep	Rep %	Dem	Dem %	Lib	Lib %	Dem	Dem %	Rep	Rep %
105	21,748	54.12%	17,155	42.69%	1,280	3.19%	19,476	48.88%	20,369	51.12%
106	6,857	19.25%	27,408	76.95%	1,355	3.80%	28,825	81.41%	6,583	18.59%
107	14,204	34.62%	25,582	62.35%	1,242	3.03%	27,307	67.01%	13,442	32.99%
108	22,310	64.29%	11,377	32.79%	1,013	2.92%	13,450	39.21%	20,851	60.79%
109	22,545	62.11%	12,803	35.27%	950	2.62%	14,882	41.40%	21,065	58.60%
110	23,200	68.91%	9,752	28.97%	715	2.12%	11,596	34.80%	21,723	65.20%
111	22,768	68.36%	9,875	29.65%	661	1.98%	11,856	36.00%	21,073	64.00%
112	23,864	71.32%	8,660	25.88%	937	2.80%	9,906	29.88%	23,248	70.12%
113	27,273	61.90%	15,470	35.11%	1,314	2.98%	16,730	38.29%	26,962	61.71%
114	10,534	22.22%	34,662	73.10%	2,218	4.68%	36,615	77.84%	10,425	22.16%
115	22,047	48.06%	22,007	47.98%	1,816	3.96%	23,858	52.43%	21,647	47.57%
116	21,972	52.39%	18,326	43.70%	1,641	3.91%	19,951	47.93%	21,673	52.07%
117	25,457	62.47%	14,037	34.45%	1,255	3.08%	15,539	38.46%	24,861	61.54%
118	23,864	60.56%	14,093	35.76%	1,451	3.68%	15,949	40.83%	23,111	59.17%
119	18,801	53.70%	14,824	42.34%	1,385	3.96%	16,595	47.85%	18,084	52.15%
120	28,296	69.92%	10,903	26.94%	1,271	3.14%	11,790	29.51%	28,166	70.49%
Totals:	2,390,619	51.88%	2,084,975	45.25%	132,360	2.87%	2,294,855	50.20%	2,276,276	49.80%

EXHIBIT B

PLAINTIFFS' SENATE PLAN GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAP AND STAT PACK

STV-1-Blue-Fair, Legal and Competitive Senate Districts



Plan: STV-1
Plan Type:

Administrator
User:

Districts & Their Incumbents

Thursday, August 24, 2017

9:57 PM

District	Name	Party	Previous District
1			
2	Sanderson	Republican	2
3	Smith-Ingram	Democratic	3
3	Cook	Republican	1
4	Horner	Republican	11
5	D.Davis	Democratic	5
6	Brown	Republican	6
7	Pate	Republican	7
8	Rabon	Republican	8
9	Lee	Republican	9
10	B.Jackson	Republican	10
11	Bryant	Democratic	4
12	Rabin	Republican	12
13	Britt	Republican	13
14	Blue	Democratic	14
15	Alexander	Republican	15
16	Barringer	Republican	17
16	Chaudhuri	Democratic	16
17			
18	Barefoot	Republican	18
19	Meredith	Republican	19
20	McKissick	Democratic	20
21	Clark	Democratic	21
22	Woodard	Democratic	22
23	Foushee	Democratic	23
24	Gunn	Republican	24

District	Name	Party	Previous District
25	McInnis	Republican	25
26	Berger	Republican	26
27			
28	Robinson	Democratic	28
28	Wade	Republican	27
29	Tillman	Republican	29
30			
31	Barrett	Republican	34
31	Krawiec	Republican	31
32	Lowe	Democratic	32
33	Dunn	Republican	33
34			
35	Tucker	Republican	35
36	Newton	Republican	36
37	Bishop	Republican	39
37	J.Jackson	Democratic	37
38	Ford	Democratic	38
39			
40	Waddell	Democratic	40
41	Tarte	Republican	41
42	Wells	Republican	42
43	Harrington	Republican	43
44	Curtis	Republican	44
45	Ballard	Republican	45
45	Randleman	Republican	30
46	Daniel	Republican	46
47	Hise	Republican	47
48	Edwards	Republican	48
49	Van Duyn	Democratic	49
50	J.Davis	Republican	50

Number of Incumbents in District with more than one Incumbent:

12



District	Name	Party	Previous District
	Number of Districts with No Incumbent:	6	<input type="text"/>
	Number of Districts with Incumbents of more than one party:	4	<input type="text"/>
	Number of Districts with Paired Democrats:	0	
	Number of Districts with Paired Republicans:	2	<input type="text"/>

STV-1-Blue-Fair, Legal and Competitive Senate Districts: Municipality-District

Municipality	District	Total Muni Pop	Total District Pop	Muni Pop in District	Percent of Muni Pop in District	Percent of District Pop in Muni
Aberdeen	25	6,350	197,991	6,350	100.00%	3.21%
Ahoskie	1	5,039	196,665	5,039	100.00%	2.56%
Alamance	24	951	196,935	951	100.00%	0.48%
Albemarle	34	15,903	199,013	15,903	100.00%	7.99%
Alliance	2	776	183,118	776	100.00%	0.42%
Andrews	50	1,781	194,102	1,781	100.00%	0.92%
Angier (Harnett)	12	4,247	187,221	4,247	100.00%	2.27%
Angier (Wake)	17	103	200,136	103	100.00%	0.05%
Ansonville	25	631	197,991	631	100.00%	0.32%
Apex	16	37,476	197,324	13,030	34.77%	6.60%
	17	37,476	200,136	24,446	65.23%	12.21%
Arapahoe	2	556	183,118	556	100.00%	0.30%
Archdale (Guilford)	29	333	200,216	333	100.00%	0.17%
Archdale (Randolph)	29	11,082	200,216	11,082	100.00%	5.54%
Archer Lodge	11	4,292	183,829	4,292	100.00%	2.33%
Asheboro	29	25,012	200,216	25,012	100.00%	12.49%
Asheville	48	83,393	184,866	12,335	14.79%	6.67%
	49	83,393	193,282	71,058	85.21%	36.76%
Askewville	3	241	182,039	241	100.00%	0.13%
Atkinson	8	299	200,134	299	100.00%	0.15%
Atlantic Beach	2	1,495	183,118	1,495	100.00%	0.82%
Aulander	3	895	182,039	895	100.00%	0.49%
Aurora	3	520	182,039	520	100.00%	0.29%
Autryville	10	196	188,148	196	100.00%	0.10%
Ayden	5	4,932	189,510	4,932	100.00%	2.60%
Badin	34	1,974	199,013	1,974	100.00%	0.99%
Bailey	11	569	183,829	569	100.00%	0.31%
Bakersville	47	464	187,477	464	100.00%	0.25%
Bald Head Island	8	158	200,134	158	100.00%	0.08%
Banner Elk	46	1,028	191,738	1,028	100.00%	0.54%
Bath	3	249	182,039	249	100.00%	0.14%
Bayboro	2	1,263	183,118	1,263	100.00%	0.69%
Bear Grass	3	73	182,039	73	100.00%	0.04%
Beaufort	2	4,039	183,118	4,039	100.00%	2.21%
Beech Mountain (Avery)	46	24	191,738	24	100.00%	0.01%
Beech Mountain (Watauga)	45	296	197,691	296	100.00%	0.15%
Belhaven	3	1,688	182,039	1,688	100.00%	0.93%
Belmont	43	10,076	197,035	10,076	100.00%	5.11%
Belville	8	1,936	200,134	1,936	100.00%	0.97%
Belwood	44	950	185,394	950	100.00%	0.51%
Benson (Harnett)	12	0	187,221	0	0.00%	0.00%
Benson (Johnston)	10	3,311	188,148	3,311	100.00%	1.76%
Bermuda Run	31	1,725	193,985	1,725	100.00%	0.89%
Bessemer City	43	5,340	197,035	5,340	100.00%	2.71%
Bethania	31	328	193,985	0	0.00%	0.00%
	32	328	197,925	328	100.00%	0.17%
Bethel	5	1,577	189,510	1,577	100.00%	0.83%

District plan definition file: 'STV-1.asc', modified 08/23/2017 04:50:36 PM

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Page 1 of 14

STV-1-Blue-Fair, Legal and Competitive Senate Districts: Municipality-District

Municipality	District	Total Muni Pop	Total District Pop	Muni Pop in District	Percent of Muni Pop in District	Percent of District Pop in Muni
Beulaville	10	1,296	188,148	1,296	100.00%	0.69%
Biltmore Forest	48	1,343	184,866	0	0.00%	0.00%
	49	1,343	193,282	1,343	100.00%	0.69%
Biscoe	33	1,700	190,676	1,700	100.00%	0.89%
Black Creek	4	769	192,477	769	100.00%	0.40%
Black Mountain	49	7,848	193,282	7,848	100.00%	4.06%
Bladenboro	8	1,750	200,134	1,750	100.00%	0.87%
Blowing Rock (Caldwell)	46	49	191,738	49	100.00%	0.03%
Blowing Rock (Watauga)	45	1,192	197,691	1,192	100.00%	0.60%
Boardman	13	157	192,266	157	100.00%	0.08%
Bogue	2	684	183,118	684	100.00%	0.37%
Boiling Spring Lakes	8	5,372	200,134	5,372	100.00%	2.68%
Boiling Springs	44	4,647	185,394	4,647	100.00%	2.51%
Bolivia	8	143	200,134	143	100.00%	0.07%
Bolton	13	691	192,266	691	100.00%	0.36%
Boone	45	17,122	197,691	17,122	100.00%	8.66%
Boonville	30	1,222	197,843	1,222	100.00%	0.62%
Bostic	47	386	187,477	386	100.00%	0.21%
Brevard	48	7,609	184,866	7,609	100.00%	4.12%
Bridgeton	2	454	183,118	454	100.00%	0.25%
Broadway (Harnett)	12	25	187,221	25	100.00%	0.01%
Broadway (Lee)	12	1,204	187,221	1,204	100.00%	0.64%
Brookford	42	382	191,556	382	100.00%	0.20%
Brunswick	13	1,119	192,266	1,119	100.00%	0.58%
Bryson City	50	1,424	194,102	1,424	100.00%	0.73%
Bunn	18	344	195,290	344	100.00%	0.18%
Burgaw	8	3,872	200,134	3,872	100.00%	1.93%
Burlington (Alamance)	24	49,308	196,935	49,308	100.00%	25.04%
Burlington (Guilford)	24	655	196,935	0	0.00%	0.00%
	29	655	200,216	655	100.00%	0.33%
Burnsville	47	1,693	187,477	1,693	100.00%	0.90%
Butner	22	7,591	184,780	7,591	100.00%	4.11%
Cajah's Mountain	46	2,823	191,738	2,823	100.00%	1.47%
Calabash	8	1,786	200,134	1,786	100.00%	0.89%
Calypso	10	538	188,148	538	100.00%	0.29%
Cameron	25	285	197,991	285	100.00%	0.14%
Candor	33	840	190,676	840	100.00%	0.44%
Canton	50	4,227	194,102	4,227	100.00%	2.18%
Cape Carteret	2	1,917	183,118	1,917	100.00%	1.05%
Carolina Beach	9	5,706	197,371	5,706	100.00%	2.89%
Carolina Shores	8	3,048	200,134	3,048	100.00%	1.52%
Carrboro	23	19,582	197,306	19,582	100.00%	9.92%
Carthage	25	2,205	197,991	2,205	100.00%	1.11%
Cary (Chatham)	23	1,422	197,306	1,422	100.00%	0.72%
Cary (Wake)	15	133,812	184,611	15,179	11.34%	8.22%
	16	133,812	197,324	105,865	79.11%	53.65%
	17	133,812	200,136	12,768	9.54%	6.38%

District plan definition file: 'STV-1.asc', modified 08/23/2017 04:50:36 PM

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Page 2 of 14

STV-1-Blue-Fair, Legal and Competitive Senate Districts: Municipality-District

Municipality	District	Total Muni Pop	Total District Pop	Muni Pop in District	Percent of Muni Pop in District	Percent of District Pop in Muni
Casar	44	297	185,394	297	100.00%	0.16%
Castalia	11	268	183,829	268	100.00%	0.15%
Caswell Beach	8	398	200,134	398	100.00%	0.20%
Catawba	42	603	191,556	603	100.00%	0.31%
Cedar Point	2	1,279	183,118	1,279	100.00%	0.70%
Cedar Rock	46	300	191,738	300	100.00%	0.16%
Centerville	18	89	195,290	89	100.00%	0.05%
Cerro Gordo	13	207	192,266	207	100.00%	0.11%
Chadbourn	13	1,856	192,266	1,856	100.00%	0.97%
Chapel Hill (Durham)	20	2,836	182,187	2,836	100.00%	1.56%
Chapel Hill (Orange)	23	54,397	197,306	54,397	100.00%	27.57%
Charlotte	37	731,424	182,443	182,443	24.94%	100.00%
	38	731,424	182,430	160,882	22.00%	88.19%
	39	731,424	185,074	173,407	23.71%	93.70%
	40	731,424	184,666	122,636	16.77%	66.41%
	41	731,424	185,015	92,056	12.59%	49.76%
Cherryville	43	5,760	197,035	5,760	100.00%	2.92%
Chimney Rock Village	47	113	187,477	113	100.00%	0.06%
China Grove	34	3,563	199,013	3,563	100.00%	1.79%
Chocowinity	3	820	182,039	820	100.00%	0.45%
Claremont	42	1,352	191,556	1,352	100.00%	0.71%
Clarkton	8	837	200,134	837	100.00%	0.42%
Clayton (Johnston)	11	16,116	183,829	16,116	100.00%	8.77%
Clayton (Wake)	14	0	184,251	0	0.00%	0.00%
Clemmons	31	18,627	193,985	18,627	100.00%	9.60%
Cleveland	34	871	199,013	871	100.00%	0.44%
Clinton	10	8,639	188,148	8,639	100.00%	4.59%
Clyde	50	1,223	194,102	1,223	100.00%	0.63%
Coats	12	2,112	187,221	2,112	100.00%	1.13%
Cofield	1	413	196,665	413	100.00%	0.21%
Colerain	3	204	182,039	204	100.00%	0.11%
Columbia	1	891	196,665	891	100.00%	0.45%
Columbus	47	999	187,477	999	100.00%	0.53%
Como	1	91	196,665	91	100.00%	0.05%
Concord	36	79,066	189,509	79,066	100.00%	41.72%
Conetoe	4	294	192,477	294	100.00%	0.15%
Connelly Springs	46	1,669	191,738	1,669	100.00%	0.87%
Conover	42	8,165	191,556	8,165	100.00%	4.26%
Conway	3	836	182,039	836	100.00%	0.46%
Cooleemee	31	960	193,985	960	100.00%	0.49%
Cornelius	41	24,866	185,015	24,866	100.00%	13.44%
Cove City	2	399	183,118	399	100.00%	0.22%
Cramerton	43	4,165	197,035	4,165	100.00%	2.11%
Creedmoor	22	4,124	184,780	4,124	100.00%	2.23%
Creswell	1	276	196,665	276	100.00%	0.14%
Crossnore	46	192	191,738	192	100.00%	0.10%
Dallas	43	4,488	197,035	4,488	100.00%	2.28%

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Page 3 of 14

STV-1-Blue-Fair, Legal and Competitive Senate Districts: Municipality-District

Municipality	District	Total Muni Pop	Total District Pop	Muni Pop in District	Percent of Muni Pop in District	Percent of District Pop in Muni
Danbury	26	189	199,600	189	100.00%	0.09%
Davidson (Iredell)	30	294	197,843	294	100.00%	0.15%
Davidson (Mecklenburg)	41	10,650	185,015	10,650	100.00%	5.76%
Dellview	43	13	197,035	13	100.00%	0.01%
Denton	33	1,636	190,676	1,636	100.00%	0.86%
Dillsboro	50	232	194,102	232	100.00%	0.12%
Dobbins Heights	25	866	197,991	866	100.00%	0.44%
Dobson	45	1,586	197,691	1,586	100.00%	0.80%
Dortches	11	935	183,829	935	100.00%	0.51%
Dover	2	401	183,118	401	100.00%	0.22%
Drexel	46	1,858	191,738	1,858	100.00%	0.97%
Dublin	8	338	200,134	338	100.00%	0.17%
Duck	1	369	196,665	369	100.00%	0.19%
Dunn	12	9,263	187,221	9,263	100.00%	4.95%
Durham (Durham)	20	228,300	182,187	160,522	70.31%	88.11%
	22	228,300	184,780	67,778	29.69%	36.68%
Durham (Orange)	23	30	197,306	30	100.00%	0.02%
Durham (Wake)	16	0	197,324	0	0.00%	0.00%
Earl	44	260	185,394	260	100.00%	0.14%
East Arcadia	8	487	200,134	487	100.00%	0.24%
East Bend	30	612	197,843	612	100.00%	0.31%
East Laurinburg	25	300	197,991	300	100.00%	0.15%
East Spencer	34	1,534	199,013	1,534	100.00%	0.77%
Eastover	19	3,628	182,681	3,628	100.00%	1.99%
Eden	26	15,527	199,600	15,527	100.00%	7.78%
Edenton	1	5,004	196,665	5,004	100.00%	2.54%
Elizabeth City (Camden)	1	45	196,665	45	100.00%	0.02%
Elizabeth City (Pasquotank)	1	18,638	196,665	18,638	100.00%	9.48%
Elizabethtown	8	3,583	200,134	3,583	100.00%	1.79%
Elk Park	46	452	191,738	452	100.00%	0.24%
Elkin (Surry)	45	3,921	197,691	3,921	100.00%	1.98%
Elkin (Wilkes)	45	80	197,691	80	100.00%	0.04%
Ellenboro	47	873	187,477	873	100.00%	0.47%
Ellerbe	25	1,054	197,991	1,054	100.00%	0.53%
Elm City	4	1,298	192,477	1,298	100.00%	0.67%
Elon	24	9,419	196,935	9,419	100.00%	4.78%
Emerald Isle	2	3,655	183,118	3,655	100.00%	2.00%
Enfield	4	2,532	192,477	2,532	100.00%	1.32%
Erwin	12	4,405	187,221	4,405	100.00%	2.35%
Eureka	7	197	182,118	197	100.00%	0.11%
Everetts	3	164	182,039	164	100.00%	0.09%
Fair Bluff	13	951	192,266	951	100.00%	0.49%
Fairmont	13	2,663	192,266	2,663	100.00%	1.39%
Fairview	36	3,324	189,509	3,324	100.00%	1.75%
Faison (Duplin)	10	961	188,148	961	100.00%	0.51%
Faison (Sampson)	10	0	188,148	0	0.00%	0.00%
Faith	34	807	199,013	807	100.00%	0.41%

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Page 4 of 14

STV-1-Blue-Fair, Legal and Competitive Senate Districts: Municipality-District

Municipality	District	Total Muni Pop	Total District Pop	Muni Pop in District	Percent of Muni Pop in District	Percent of District Pop in Muni
Falcon (Cumberland)	19	258	182,681	258	100.00%	0.14%
Falcon (Sampson)	10	0	188,148	0	0.00%	0.00%
Falkland	5	96	189,510	96	100.00%	0.05%
Fallston	44	607	185,394	607	100.00%	0.33%
Farmville	5	4,654	189,510	4,654	100.00%	2.46%
Fayetteville	19	200,564	182,681	85,236	42.50%	46.66%
	21	200,564	183,702	115,328	57.50%	62.78%
Flat Rock	48	3,114	184,866	3,114	100.00%	1.68%
Fletcher	48	7,187	184,866	7,187	100.00%	3.89%
Forest City	47	7,476	187,477	7,476	100.00%	3.99%
Forest Hills	50	365	194,102	365	100.00%	0.19%
Fountain	5	427	189,510	427	100.00%	0.23%
Four Oaks	10	1,921	188,148	1,921	100.00%	1.02%
Foxfire	25	902	197,991	902	100.00%	0.46%
Franklin	50	3,845	194,102	3,845	100.00%	1.98%
Franklinton	18	2,023	195,290	2,023	100.00%	1.04%
Franklinville	29	1,164	200,216	1,164	100.00%	0.58%
Fremont	7	1,255	182,118	1,255	100.00%	0.69%
Fuquay-Varina	17	17,937	200,136	17,937	100.00%	8.96%
Gamewell	46	4,051	191,738	4,051	100.00%	2.11%
Garland	10	625	188,148	625	100.00%	0.33%
Garner	14	25,745	184,251	7,544	29.30%	4.09%
	17	25,745	200,136	18,201	70.70%	9.09%
Garysburg	3	1,057	182,039	1,057	100.00%	0.58%
Gaston	3	1,152	182,039	1,152	100.00%	0.63%
Gastonia	43	71,741	197,035	71,741	100.00%	36.41%
Gatesville	1	321	196,665	321	100.00%	0.16%
Gibson	25	540	197,991	540	100.00%	0.27%
Gibsonville (Alamance)	24	3,148	196,935	3,148	100.00%	1.60%
Gibsonville (Guilford)	24	3,262	196,935	2,779	85.19%	1.41%
	29	3,262	200,216	483	14.81%	0.24%
Glen Alpine	46	1,517	191,738	1,517	100.00%	0.79%
Godwin	19	139	182,681	139	100.00%	0.08%
Goldsboro	7	36,437	182,118	36,437	100.00%	20.01%
Goldston	23	268	197,306	268	100.00%	0.14%
Graham	24	14,153	196,935	14,153	100.00%	7.19%
Grandfather	46	25	191,738	25	100.00%	0.01%
Granite Falls	46	4,722	191,738	4,722	100.00%	2.46%
Granite Quarry	34	2,930	199,013	2,930	100.00%	1.47%
Grantsboro	2	688	183,118	688	100.00%	0.38%
Green Level	24	2,100	196,935	2,100	100.00%	1.07%
Greenevers	10	634	188,148	634	100.00%	0.34%
Greensboro	24	269,666	196,935	1,105	0.41%	0.56%
	27	269,666	198,164	188,131	69.76%	94.94%
	28	269,666	185,974	80,430	29.83%	43.25%
	29	269,666	200,216	0	0.00%	0.00%
Greenville	5	84,554	189,510	84,554	100.00%	44.62%

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STV-1-Blue-Fair, Legal and Competitive Senate Districts: Municipality-District

Municipality	District	Total Muni Pop	Total District Pop	Muni Pop in District	Percent of Muni Pop in District	Percent of District Pop in Muni
Grifton (Lenoir)	7	186	182,118	186	100.00%	0.10%
Grifton (Pitt)	5	2,431	189,510	2,431	100.00%	1.28%
Grimesland	5	441	189,510	441	100.00%	0.23%
Grover	44	708	185,394	708	100.00%	0.38%
Halifax	4	234	192,477	234	100.00%	0.12%
Hamilton	3	408	182,039	408	100.00%	0.22%
Hamlet	25	6,495	197,991	6,495	100.00%	3.28%
Harmony	30	531	197,843	531	100.00%	0.27%
Harrells (Duplin)	10	23	188,148	23	100.00%	0.01%
Harrells (Sampson)	10	179	188,148	179	100.00%	0.10%
Harrellsville	1	106	196,665	106	100.00%	0.05%
Harrisburg	36	11,526	189,509	11,526	100.00%	6.08%
Hassell	3	84	182,039	84	100.00%	0.05%
Havelock	2	20,735	183,118	20,735	100.00%	11.32%
Haw River	24	2,298	196,935	2,298	100.00%	1.17%
Hayesville	50	311	194,102	311	100.00%	0.16%
Hemby Bridge	35	1,520	189,794	1,509	99.28%	0.80%
	36	1,520	189,509	11	0.72%	0.01%
Henderson	3	15,368	182,039	15,368	100.00%	8.44%
Hendersonville	48	13,137	184,866	13,137	100.00%	7.11%
Hertford	1	2,143	196,665	2,143	100.00%	1.09%
Hickory (Burke)	46	66	191,738	66	100.00%	0.03%
Hickory (Caldwell)	46	18	191,738	18	100.00%	0.01%
Hickory (Catawba)	42	39,926	191,556	39,926	100.00%	20.84%
High Point (Davidson)	33	5,310	190,676	5,310	100.00%	2.78%
High Point (Forsyth)	31	8	193,985	8	100.00%	0.00%
High Point (Guilford)	28	99,042	185,974	62,208	62.81%	33.45%
	29	99,042	200,216	36,834	37.19%	18.40%
High Point (Randolph)	29	11	200,216	11	100.00%	0.01%
High Shoals	43	696	197,035	696	100.00%	0.35%
Highlands (Jackson)	50	4	194,102	4	100.00%	0.00%
Highlands (Macon)	50	920	194,102	920	100.00%	0.47%
Hildebran	46	2,023	191,738	2,023	100.00%	1.06%
Hillsborough	23	6,087	197,306	6,087	100.00%	3.09%
Hobgood	4	348	192,477	348	100.00%	0.18%
Hoffman	25	588	197,991	588	100.00%	0.30%
Holden Beach	8	575	200,134	575	100.00%	0.29%
Holly Ridge	6	1,268	187,925	1,268	100.00%	0.67%
Holly Springs	17	24,661	200,136	24,661	100.00%	12.32%
Hookerton	5	409	189,510	409	100.00%	0.22%
Hope Mills	19	15,176	182,681	15,176	100.00%	8.31%
Hot Springs	47	560	187,477	560	100.00%	0.30%
Hudson	46	3,776	191,738	3,776	100.00%	1.97%
Huntersville	41	46,773	185,015	46,773	100.00%	25.28%
Indian Beach	2	112	183,118	112	100.00%	0.06%
Indian Trail	35	33,518	189,794	33,456	99.82%	17.63%
	36	33,518	189,509	62	0.18%	0.03%

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Printed 08/23/2017 {rptG03|dc2017HS|re1.3.1}

Page 6 of 14

STV-1-Blue-Fair, Legal and Competitive Senate Districts: Municipality-District

Municipality	District	Total Muni Pop	Total District Pop	Muni Pop in District	Percent of Muni Pop in District	Percent of District Pop in Muni
Jackson	3	513	182,039	513	100.00%	0.28%
Jacksonville	6	70,145	187,925	70,145	100.00%	37.33%
Jamestown	28	3,382	185,974	3,382	100.00%	1.82%
Jamesville	3	491	182,039	491	100.00%	0.27%
Jefferson	45	1,611	197,691	1,611	100.00%	0.81%
Jonesville	30	2,285	197,843	2,285	100.00%	1.15%
Kannapolis (Cabarrus)	36	33,194	189,509	33,194	100.00%	17.52%
Kannapolis (Rowan)	34	9,431	199,013	9,431	100.00%	4.74%
Kelford	3	251	182,039	251	100.00%	0.14%
Kenansville	10	855	188,148	855	100.00%	0.45%
Kenly (Johnston)	10	1,176	188,148	1,176	100.00%	0.63%
Kenly (Wilson)	4	163	192,477	163	100.00%	0.08%
Kernersville (Forsyth)	31	23,071	193,985	23,067	99.98%	11.89%
	32	23,071	197,925	4	0.02%	0.00%
Kernersville (Guilford)	24	52	196,935	52	100.00%	0.03%
	29	52	200,216	0	0.00%	0.00%
Kill Devil Hills	1	6,683	196,665	6,683	100.00%	3.40%
King (Forsyth)	31	619	193,985	619	100.00%	0.32%
King (Stokes)	26	6,285	199,600	6,285	100.00%	3.15%
Kings Mountain (Cleveland)	44	9,242	185,394	9,242	100.00%	4.99%
Kings Mountain (Gaston)	43	1,054	197,035	1,054	100.00%	0.53%
Kingstown	44	681	185,394	681	100.00%	0.37%
Kinston	7	21,677	182,118	21,677	100.00%	11.90%
Kittrell	3	467	182,039	467	100.00%	0.26%
Kitty Hawk	1	3,272	196,665	3,272	100.00%	1.66%
Knightdale	14	11,401	184,251	11,401	100.00%	6.19%
Kure Beach	9	2,012	197,371	2,012	100.00%	1.02%
La Grange	7	2,873	182,118	2,873	100.00%	1.58%
Lake Lure	47	1,192	187,477	1,192	100.00%	0.64%
Lake Park	35	3,422	189,794	3,422	100.00%	1.80%
Lake Santeetlah	50	45	194,102	45	100.00%	0.02%
Lake Waccamaw	13	1,480	192,266	1,480	100.00%	0.77%
Landis	34	3,109	199,013	3,109	100.00%	1.56%
Lansing	45	158	197,691	158	100.00%	0.08%
Lasker	3	122	182,039	122	100.00%	0.07%
Lattimore	44	488	185,394	488	100.00%	0.26%
Laurel Park	48	2,180	184,866	2,180	100.00%	1.18%
Laurinburg	25	15,962	197,991	15,962	100.00%	8.06%
Lawndale	44	606	185,394	606	100.00%	0.33%
Leggett	4	60	192,477	60	100.00%	0.03%
Leland	8	13,527	200,134	13,527	100.00%	6.76%
Lenoir	46	18,228	191,738	18,228	100.00%	9.51%
Lewiston Woodville	3	549	182,039	549	100.00%	0.30%
Lewisville	31	12,639	193,985	12,639	100.00%	6.52%
Lexington	33	18,931	190,676	18,931	100.00%	9.93%
Liberty	29	2,656	200,216	2,656	100.00%	1.33%
Lilesville	25	536	197,991	536	100.00%	0.27%

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Printed 08/23/2017 {rptG03|dc2017HS|re1.3.1}

Page 7 of 14

STV-1-Blue-Fair, Legal and Competitive Senate Districts: Municipality-District

Municipality	District	Total Muni Pop	Total District Pop	Muni Pop in District	Percent of Muni Pop in District	Percent of District Pop in Muni
Lillington	12	3,194	187,221	3,194	100.00%	1.71%
Lincolnton	44	10,486	185,394	10,486	100.00%	5.66%
Linden	19	130	182,681	130	100.00%	0.07%
Littleton	4	674	192,477	674	100.00%	0.35%
Locust (Cabarrus)	36	215	189,509	215	100.00%	0.11%
Locust (Stanly)	34	2,715	199,013	2,715	100.00%	1.36%
Long View (Burke)	46	752	191,738	752	100.00%	0.39%
Long View (Catawba)	42	4,119	191,556	4,119	100.00%	2.15%
Louisburg	18	3,359	195,290	3,359	100.00%	1.72%
Love Valley	30	90	197,843	90	100.00%	0.05%
Lowell	43	3,526	197,035	3,526	100.00%	1.79%
Lucama	4	1,108	192,477	1,108	100.00%	0.58%
Lumber Bridge	13	94	192,266	94	100.00%	0.05%
Lumberton	13	21,542	192,266	21,542	100.00%	11.20%
Macclesfield	4	471	192,477	471	100.00%	0.24%
Macon	3	119	182,039	119	100.00%	0.07%
Madison	26	2,246	199,600	2,246	100.00%	1.13%
Maggie Valley	50	1,150	194,102	1,150	100.00%	0.59%
Magnolia	10	939	188,148	939	100.00%	0.50%
Maiden (Catawba)	42	3,308	191,556	3,308	100.00%	1.73%
Maiden (Lincoln)	44	2	185,394	2	100.00%	0.00%
Manteo	1	1,434	196,665	1,434	100.00%	0.73%
Marietta	13	175	192,266	175	100.00%	0.09%
Marion	47	7,838	187,477	7,838	100.00%	4.18%
Mars Hill	47	1,869	187,477	1,869	100.00%	1.00%
Marshall	47	872	187,477	872	100.00%	0.47%
Marshville	35	2,402	189,794	2,402	100.00%	1.27%
Marvin	35	5,579	189,794	5,579	100.00%	2.94%
Matthews	40	27,198	184,666	27,198	100.00%	14.73%
Maxton (Robeson)	13	2,230	192,266	2,230	100.00%	1.16%
Maxton (Scotland)	25	196	197,991	196	100.00%	0.10%
Mayodan	26	2,478	199,600	2,478	100.00%	1.24%
Maysville	6	1,019	187,925	1,019	100.00%	0.54%
McAdenville	43	651	197,035	651	100.00%	0.33%
McDonald	13	113	192,266	113	100.00%	0.06%
McFarlan	25	117	197,991	117	100.00%	0.06%
Mebane (Alamance)	24	9,600	196,935	9,600	100.00%	4.87%
Mebane (Orange)	23	1,793	197,306	1,793	100.00%	0.91%
Mesic	2	220	183,118	220	100.00%	0.12%
Micro	10	441	188,148	441	100.00%	0.23%
Middleburg	3	133	182,039	133	100.00%	0.07%
Middlesex	11	822	183,829	822	100.00%	0.45%
Midland (Cabarrus)	36	3,073	189,509	3,073	100.00%	1.62%
Midland (Mecklenburg)	40	0	184,666	0	0.00%	0.00%
Midway	33	4,679	190,676	4,679	100.00%	2.45%
Mills River	48	6,802	184,866	6,802	100.00%	3.68%
Milton	26	166	199,600	166	100.00%	0.08%

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Printed 08/23/2017 {rptG03|dc2017HS|re1.3.1}

Page 8 of 14

STV-1-Blue-Fair, Legal and Competitive Senate Districts: Municipality-District

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Mineral Springs	35	2,639	189,794	2,639	100.00%	1.39%
Minnesott Beach	2	440	183,118	440	100.00%	0.24%
Mint Hill (Mecklenburg)	39	22,669	185,074	3,389	14.95%	1.83%
	40	22,669	184,666	19,280	85.05%	10.44%
Mint Hill (Union)	36	53	189,509	53	100.00%	0.03%
Misenheimer	34	728	199,013	728	100.00%	0.37%
Mocksville	31	5,051	193,985	5,051	100.00%	2.60%
Momeyer	11	224	183,829	224	100.00%	0.12%
Monroe	35	32,797	189,794	32,797	100.00%	17.28%
Montreat	49	723	193,282	723	100.00%	0.37%
Mooresboro	44	311	185,394	311	100.00%	0.17%
Mooresville	30	32,711	197,843	32,711	100.00%	16.53%
Morehead City	2	8,661	183,118	8,661	100.00%	4.73%
Morganton	46	16,918	191,738	16,918	100.00%	8.82%
Morrisville (Durham)	20	0	182,187	0	0.00%	0.00%
Morrisville (Wake)	16	18,576	197,324	18,576	100.00%	9.41%
Morven	25	511	197,991	511	100.00%	0.26%
Mount Airy	26	10,388	199,600	10,388	100.00%	5.20%
Mount Gilead	33	1,181	190,676	1,181	100.00%	0.62%
Mount Holly	43	13,656	197,035	11,715	85.79%	5.95%
	44	13,656	185,394	1,941	14.21%	1.05%
Mount Olive (Duplin)	10	51	188,148	51	100.00%	0.03%
Mount Olive (Wayne)	7	4,538	182,118	4,538	100.00%	2.49%
Mount Pleasant	36	1,652	189,509	1,652	100.00%	0.87%
Murfreesboro	1	2,835	196,665	2,835	100.00%	1.44%
Murphy	50	1,627	194,102	1,627	100.00%	0.84%
Nags Head	1	2,757	196,665	2,757	100.00%	1.40%
Nashville	11	5,352	183,829	5,352	100.00%	2.91%
Navassa	8	1,505	200,134	1,505	100.00%	0.75%
New Bern	2	29,524	183,118	29,524	100.00%	16.12%
New London	34	600	199,013	600	100.00%	0.30%
Newland	46	698	191,738	698	100.00%	0.36%
Newport	2	4,150	183,118	4,150	100.00%	2.27%
Newton	42	12,968	191,556	12,968	100.00%	6.77%
Newton Grove	10	569	188,148	569	100.00%	0.30%
Norlina	3	1,118	182,039	1,118	100.00%	0.61%
Norman	25	138	197,991	138	100.00%	0.07%
North Topsail Beach	6	743	187,925	743	100.00%	0.40%
North Wilkesboro	45	4,245	197,691	4,245	100.00%	2.15%
Northwest	8	735	200,134	735	100.00%	0.37%
Norwood	34	2,379	199,013	2,379	100.00%	1.20%
Oak City	3	317	182,039	317	100.00%	0.17%
Oak Island	8	6,783	200,134	6,783	100.00%	3.39%
Oak Ridge	24	6,185	196,935	6,185	100.00%	3.14%
Oakboro	34	1,859	199,013	1,859	100.00%	0.93%
Ocean Isle Beach	8	550	200,134	550	100.00%	0.27%
Old Fort	47	908	187,477	908	100.00%	0.48%

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Printed 08/23/2017 {rptG03|dc2017HS|re1.3.1}

Page 9 of 14

STV-1-Blue-Fair, Legal and Competitive Senate Districts: Municipality-District

Municipality	District	Total Muni Pop	Total District Pop	Muni Pop in District	Percent of Muni Pop in District	Percent of District Pop in Muni
Oriental	2	900	183,118	900	100.00%	0.49%
Orrum	13	91	192,266	91	100.00%	0.05%
Ossipee	24	543	196,935	543	100.00%	0.28%
Oxford	22	8,461	184,780	8,461	100.00%	4.58%
Pantego	3	179	182,039	179	100.00%	0.10%
Parkton	13	436	192,266	436	100.00%	0.23%
Parmelee	3	278	182,039	278	100.00%	0.15%
Patterson Springs	44	622	185,394	622	100.00%	0.34%
Peachland	25	437	197,991	437	100.00%	0.22%
Peletier	2	644	183,118	644	100.00%	0.35%
Pembroke	13	2,973	192,266	2,973	100.00%	1.55%
Pikeville	7	678	182,118	678	100.00%	0.37%
Pilot Mountain	26	1,477	199,600	1,477	100.00%	0.74%
Pine Knoll Shores	2	1,339	183,118	1,339	100.00%	0.73%
Pine Level	10	1,700	188,148	1,700	100.00%	0.90%
Pinebluff	25	1,337	197,991	1,337	100.00%	0.68%
Pinehurst	25	13,124	197,991	13,124	100.00%	6.63%
Pinetops	4	1,374	192,477	1,374	100.00%	0.71%
Pineville	38	7,479	182,430	5,019	67.11%	2.75%
	39	7,479	185,074	2,460	32.89%	1.33%
Pink Hill	7	552	182,118	552	100.00%	0.30%
Pittsboro	23	3,743	197,306	3,743	100.00%	1.90%
Pleasant Garden	28	4,489	185,974	2,244	49.99%	1.21%
	29	4,489	200,216	2,245	50.01%	1.12%
Plymouth	1	3,878	196,665	3,878	100.00%	1.97%
Polkton	25	3,375	197,991	3,375	100.00%	1.70%
Polkville	44	545	185,394	545	100.00%	0.29%
Pollocksville	6	311	187,925	311	100.00%	0.17%
Powellsville	3	276	182,039	276	100.00%	0.15%
Princeton	10	1,194	188,148	1,194	100.00%	0.63%
Princeville	4	2,082	192,477	2,082	100.00%	1.08%
Proctorville	13	117	192,266	117	100.00%	0.06%
Raeford	21	4,611	183,702	4,611	100.00%	2.51%
Raleigh (Durham)	20	1,067	182,187	1,067	100.00%	0.59%
Raleigh (Wake)	14	402,825	184,251	106,275	26.38%	57.68%
	15	402,825	184,611	162,870	40.43%	88.22%
	16	402,825	197,324	54,525	13.54%	27.63%
	17	402,825	200,136	33,860	8.41%	16.92%
	18	402,825	195,290	45,295	11.24%	23.19%
Ramseur	29	1,692	200,216	1,692	100.00%	0.85%
Randleman	29	4,113	200,216	4,113	100.00%	2.05%
Ranlo	43	3,434	197,035	3,434	100.00%	1.74%
Raynham	13	72	192,266	72	100.00%	0.04%
Red Cross	34	742	199,013	742	100.00%	0.37%
Red Oak	11	3,430	183,829	3,430	100.00%	1.87%
Red Springs (Hoke)	21	0	183,702	0	0.00%	0.00%
Red Springs (Robeson)	13	3,428	192,266	3,428	100.00%	1.78%

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Printed 08/23/2017 {rptG03|dc2017HS|re1.3.1}

Page 10 of 14

STV-1-Blue-Fair, Legal and Competitive Senate Districts: Municipality-District

Municipality	District	Total Muni Pop	Total District Pop	Muni Pop in District	Percent of Muni Pop in District	Percent of District Pop in Muni
Reidsville	26	14,520	199,600	14,520	100.00%	7.27%
Rennert	13	383	192,266	383	100.00%	0.20%
Rhodhiss (Burke)	46	700	191,738	700	100.00%	0.37%
Rhodhiss (Caldwell)	46	370	191,738	370	100.00%	0.19%
Rich Square	3	958	182,039	958	100.00%	0.53%
Richfield	34	613	199,013	613	100.00%	0.31%
Richlands	6	1,520	187,925	1,520	100.00%	0.81%
River Bend	2	3,119	183,118	3,119	100.00%	1.70%
Roanoke Rapids	4	15,754	192,477	15,754	100.00%	8.18%
Robbins	25	1,097	197,991	1,097	100.00%	0.55%
Robbinsville	50	620	194,102	620	100.00%	0.32%
Robersonville	3	1,488	182,039	1,488	100.00%	0.82%
Rockingham	25	9,558	197,991	9,558	100.00%	4.83%
Rockwell	34	2,108	199,013	2,108	100.00%	1.06%
Rocky Mount (Edgecombe)	4	17,524	192,477	17,524	100.00%	9.10%
Rocky Mount (Nash)	11	39,953	183,829	39,953	100.00%	21.73%
Rolesville	18	3,786	195,290	3,786	100.00%	1.94%
Ronda	45	417	197,691	417	100.00%	0.21%
Roper	1	611	196,665	611	100.00%	0.31%
Rose Hill	10	1,626	188,148	1,626	100.00%	0.86%
Roseboro	10	1,191	188,148	1,191	100.00%	0.63%
Rosman	48	576	184,866	576	100.00%	0.31%
Rowland	13	1,037	192,266	1,037	100.00%	0.54%
Roxboro	22	8,362	184,780	8,362	100.00%	4.53%
Roxobel	3	240	182,039	240	100.00%	0.13%
Rural Hall	31	2,937	193,985	2,937	100.00%	1.51%
Ruth	47	440	187,477	440	100.00%	0.23%
Rutherford College	46	1,341	191,738	1,341	100.00%	0.70%
Rutherfordton	47	4,213	187,477	4,213	100.00%	2.25%
Salemburg	10	435	188,148	435	100.00%	0.23%
Salisbury	34	33,662	199,013	33,662	100.00%	16.91%
Saluda (Henderson)	48	12	184,866	12	100.00%	0.01%
Saluda (Polk)	47	701	187,477	701	100.00%	0.37%
Sandy Creek	8	260	200,134	260	100.00%	0.13%
Sandyfield	13	447	192,266	447	100.00%	0.23%
Sanford	12	28,094	187,221	28,094	100.00%	15.01%
Saratoga	4	408	192,477	408	100.00%	0.21%
Sawmills	46	5,240	191,738	5,240	100.00%	2.73%
Scotland Neck	4	2,059	192,477	2,059	100.00%	1.07%
Seaboard	3	632	182,039	632	100.00%	0.35%
Seagrove	29	228	200,216	228	100.00%	0.11%
Sedalia	28	623	185,974	623	100.00%	0.33%
	29	623	200,216	0	0.00%	0.00%
Selma	10	6,073	188,148	366	6.03%	0.19%
	11	6,073	183,829	5,707	93.97%	3.10%
Seven Devils (Avery)	46	28	191,738	28	100.00%	0.01%
Seven Devils (Watauga)	45	164	197,691	164	100.00%	0.08%

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Printed 08/23/2017 {rptG03|dc2017HS|re1.3.1}

Page 11 of 14

STV-1-Blue-Fair, Legal and Competitive Senate Districts: Municipality-District

Municipality	District	Total Muni Pop	Total District Pop	Muni Pop in District	Percent of Muni Pop in District	Percent of District Pop in Muni
Seven Springs	7	110	182,118	110	100.00%	0.06%
Severn	3	276	182,039	276	100.00%	0.15%
Shallotte	8	3,675	200,134	3,675	100.00%	1.84%
Sharpsburg (Edgecombe)	4	209	192,477	209	100.00%	0.11%
Sharpsburg (Nash)	11	1,252	183,829	1,252	100.00%	0.68%
Sharpsburg (Wilson)	4	563	192,477	563	100.00%	0.29%
Shelby	44	20,323	185,394	20,323	100.00%	10.96%
Siler City	23	7,887	197,306	7,887	100.00%	4.00%
Simpson	5	416	189,510	416	100.00%	0.22%
Sims	4	282	192,477	282	100.00%	0.15%
Smithfield	10	10,966	188,148	10,965	99.99%	5.83%
	11	10,966	183,829	1	0.01%	0.00%
Snow Hill	5	1,595	189,510	1,595	100.00%	0.84%
Southern Pines	25	12,334	197,991	12,334	100.00%	6.23%
Southern Shores	1	2,714	196,665	2,714	100.00%	1.38%
Southport	8	2,833	200,134	2,833	100.00%	1.42%
Sparta	45	1,770	197,691	1,770	100.00%	0.90%
Speed	4	80	192,477	80	100.00%	0.04%
Spencer	34	3,267	199,013	3,267	100.00%	1.64%
Spencer Mountain	43	37	197,035	37	100.00%	0.02%
Spindale	47	4,321	187,477	4,321	100.00%	2.30%
Spring Hope	11	1,320	183,829	1,320	100.00%	0.72%
Spring Lake	21	11,964	183,702	11,964	100.00%	6.51%
Spruce Pine	47	2,175	187,477	2,175	100.00%	1.16%
St. Helena	8	389	200,134	389	100.00%	0.19%
St. James	8	3,165	200,134	3,165	100.00%	1.58%
St. Pauls	13	2,035	192,266	2,035	100.00%	1.06%
Staley	29	393	200,216	393	100.00%	0.20%
Stallings (Mecklenburg)	40	399	184,666	399	100.00%	0.22%
Stallings (Union)	35	13,432	189,794	7,778	57.91%	4.10%
	36	13,432	189,509	5,654	42.09%	2.98%
Stanfield	34	1,486	199,013	1,486	100.00%	0.75%
Stanley	43	3,556	197,035	2,790	78.46%	1.42%
	44	3,556	185,394	766	21.54%	0.41%
Stantonsburg	4	784	192,477	784	100.00%	0.41%
Star	33	876	190,676	876	100.00%	0.46%
Statesville	30	24,532	197,843	24,532	100.00%	12.40%
Stedman	19	1,028	182,681	1,028	100.00%	0.56%
Stem	22	463	184,780	463	100.00%	0.25%
Stokesdale	24	5,047	196,935	5,047	100.00%	2.56%
Stoneville	26	1,056	199,600	1,056	100.00%	0.53%
Stonewall	2	281	183,118	281	100.00%	0.15%
Stovall	22	418	184,780	418	100.00%	0.23%
Sugar Mountain	46	198	191,738	198	100.00%	0.10%
Summerfield	24	10,232	196,935	8,143	79.58%	4.13%
	27	10,232	198,164	2,089	20.42%	1.05%
Sunset Beach	8	3,572	200,134	3,572	100.00%	1.78%

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Printed 08/23/2017 {rptG03|dc2017HS|re1.3.1}

Page 12 of 14

STV-1-Blue-Fair, Legal and Competitive Senate Districts: Municipality-District

Municipality	District	Total Muni Pop	Total District Pop	Muni Pop in District	Percent of Muni Pop in District	Percent of District Pop in Muni
Surf City (Onslow)	6	292	187,925	292	100.00%	0.16%
Surf City (Pender)	8	1,561	200,134	1,561	100.00%	0.78%
Swansboro	6	2,663	187,925	2,663	100.00%	1.42%
Sweptsonville	24	1,154	196,935	1,154	100.00%	0.59%
Sylva	50	2,588	194,102	2,588	100.00%	1.33%
Tabor City	13	2,511	192,266	2,511	100.00%	1.31%
Tar Heel	8	117	200,134	117	100.00%	0.06%
Tarboro	4	11,415	192,477	11,415	100.00%	5.93%
Taylorsville	42	2,098	191,556	2,098	100.00%	1.10%
Taylortown	25	722	197,991	722	100.00%	0.36%
Teachey	10	376	188,148	376	100.00%	0.20%
Thomasville (Davidson)	33	26,493	190,676	26,493	100.00%	13.89%
Thomasville (Randolph)	29	264	200,216	264	100.00%	0.13%
Tobaccoville (Forsyth)	31	2,441	193,985	2,441	100.00%	1.26%
Tobaccoville (Stokes)	26	0	199,600	0	0.00%	0.00%
Topsail Beach	8	368	200,134	368	100.00%	0.18%
Trent Woods	2	4,155	183,118	4,155	100.00%	2.27%
Trenton	6	287	187,925	287	100.00%	0.15%
Trinity	29	6,614	200,216	6,614	100.00%	3.30%
Troutman	30	2,383	197,843	2,383	100.00%	1.20%
Troy	33	3,189	190,676	3,189	100.00%	1.67%
Tryon	47	1,646	187,477	1,646	100.00%	0.88%
Turkey	10	292	188,148	292	100.00%	0.16%
Unionville	35	5,929	189,794	5,843	98.55%	3.08%
	36	5,929	189,509	86	1.45%	0.05%
Valdese	46	4,490	191,738	4,490	100.00%	2.34%
Vanceboro	2	1,005	183,118	1,005	100.00%	0.55%
Vandemere	2	254	183,118	254	100.00%	0.14%
Varnamtown	8	541	200,134	541	100.00%	0.27%
Vass	25	720	197,991	720	100.00%	0.36%
Waco	44	321	185,394	321	100.00%	0.17%
Wade	19	556	182,681	556	100.00%	0.30%
Wadesboro	25	5,813	197,991	5,813	100.00%	2.94%
Wagram	25	840	197,991	840	100.00%	0.42%
Wake Forest (Franklin)	18	899	195,290	899	100.00%	0.46%
Wake Forest (Wake)	18	29,218	195,290	29,218	100.00%	14.96%
Walkertown	31	4,675	193,985	1,620	34.65%	0.84%
	32	4,675	197,925	3,055	65.35%	1.54%
Wallace (Duplin)	10	3,880	188,148	3,880	100.00%	2.06%
Wallace (Pender)	8	0	200,134	0	0.00%	0.00%
Wallburg	33	3,047	190,676	3,047	100.00%	1.60%
Walnut Cove	26	1,425	199,600	1,425	100.00%	0.71%
Walnut Creek	7	835	182,118	835	100.00%	0.46%
Walstonburg	5	219	189,510	219	100.00%	0.12%
Warrenton	3	862	182,039	862	100.00%	0.47%
Warsaw	10	3,054	188,148	3,054	100.00%	1.62%
Washington	3	9,744	182,039	9,744	100.00%	5.35%

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Printed 08/23/2017 {rptG03|dc2017HS|re1.3.1}

Page 13 of 14

STV-1-Blue-Fair, Legal and Competitive Senate Districts: Municipality-District

Municipality	District	Total Muni Pop	Total District Pop	Muni Pop in District	Percent of Muni Pop in District	Percent of District Pop in Muni
Washington Park	3	451	182,039	451	100.00%	0.25%
Watha	8	190	200,134	190	100.00%	0.09%
Waxhaw	35	9,859	189,794	9,859	100.00%	5.19%
Waynesville	50	9,869	194,102	9,869	100.00%	5.08%
Weaverville	49	3,120	193,282	3,120	100.00%	1.61%
Webster	50	363	194,102	363	100.00%	0.19%
Weddington (Mecklenburg)	40	7	184,666	7	100.00%	0.00%
Weddington (Union)	35	9,452	189,794	9,452	100.00%	4.98%
Weldon	4	1,655	192,477	1,655	100.00%	0.86%
Wendell	14	5,845	184,251	5,845	100.00%	3.17%
Wentworth	26	2,807	199,600	2,807	100.00%	1.41%
Wesley Chapel	35	7,463	189,794	7,463	100.00%	3.93%
West Jefferson	45	1,299	197,691	1,299	100.00%	0.66%
Whispering Pines	25	2,928	197,991	2,928	100.00%	1.48%
Whitakers (Edgecombe)	4	402	192,477	402	100.00%	0.21%
Whitakers (Nash)	11	342	183,829	342	100.00%	0.19%
White Lake	8	802	200,134	802	100.00%	0.40%
Whiteville	13	5,394	192,266	5,394	100.00%	2.81%
Whitsett	28	590	185,974	1	0.17%	0.00%
	29	590	200,216	589	99.83%	0.29%
Wilkesboro	45	3,413	197,691	3,413	100.00%	1.73%
Williamston	3	5,511	182,039	5,511	100.00%	3.03%
Wilmington	8	106,476	200,134	5,296	4.97%	2.65%
	9	106,476	197,371	101,180	95.03%	51.26%
Wilson	4	49,167	192,477	49,167	100.00%	25.54%
Wilson's Mills	10	2,277	188,148	0	0.00%	0.00%
	11	2,277	183,829	2,277	100.00%	1.24%
Windsor	3	3,630	182,039	3,630	100.00%	1.99%
Winfall	1	594	196,665	594	100.00%	0.30%
Wingate	35	3,491	189,794	3,491	100.00%	1.84%
Winston-Salem	31	229,617	193,985	42,342	18.44%	21.83%
	32	229,617	197,925	187,275	81.56%	94.62%
Winterville	5	9,269	189,510	9,269	100.00%	4.89%
Winton	1	769	196,665	769	100.00%	0.39%
Woodfin	49	6,123	193,282	6,123	100.00%	3.17%
Woodland	3	809	182,039	809	100.00%	0.44%
Wrightsville Beach	9	2,477	197,371	2,477	100.00%	1.25%
Yadkinville	30	2,959	197,843	2,959	100.00%	1.50%
Yanceyville	26	2,039	199,600	2,039	100.00%	1.02%
Youngsville	18	1,157	195,290	1,157	100.00%	0.59%
Zebulon (Johnston)	11	0	183,829	0	0.00%	0.00%
Zebulon (Wake)	14	4,433	184,251	4,052	91.41%	2.20%
	18	4,433	195,290	381	8.59%	0.20%
Total:				5,250,071		

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Page 14 of 14

STV-1-Blue-Fair, Legal and Competitive Senate Districts: Split VTD Detail

County	VTD	District	Total VTD Pop	VTD Pop in District	Percent of VTD Pop in District
New Hanover	W03	8	2,640	1,765	66.86%
		9	2,640	875	33.14%
	W29	8	4,956	3,531	71.25%
		9	4,956	1,425	28.75%

Plan Name: STV-1
Plan Type:
Date: 08/24/2017
Time: 09:48:47AM
Administrator:

Measures of Compactness

08/24/2017

Sum	N/A
Min	0.23
Max	0.62
Mean	0.42
Std. Dev.	0.10

DISTRICT	Reock
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1	0.46
2	0.48
3	0.23
4	0.45
5	0.62
6	0.52
7	0.46
8	0.41
9	0.24
10	0.48
11	0.23
12	0.50
13	0.41
14	0.34
15	0.59
16	0.40
17	0.48
18	0.43
19	0.48
20	0.48
21	0.48
22	0.51
23	0.39
24	0.29
25	0.46
26	0.27
27	0.51
28	0.29
29	0.49
30	0.33
31	0.32
32	0.59
33	0.27
34	0.32
35	0.49
36	0.44
37	0.42
38	0.39
39	0.35
40	0.29

Plan Name:	STV-1	Administrator:
Plan Type:		User:

DISTRICT	Reock
41	0.56
42	0.45
43	0.43
44	0.38
45	0.41
46	0.54
47	0.42
48	0.40
49	0.39
50	0.42

Plan Name: STV-1
Plan Type:
Date: 08/24/2017
Time: 09:50:43AM
Administrator:

Measures of Compactness

08/24/2017

Sum	N/A
Min	0.15
Max	0.56
Mean	0.35
Std. Dev.	0.10

DISTRICT	Polsby-Popper
1	0.46
2	0.42
3	0.15
4	0.31
5	0.44
6	0.55
7	0.35
8	0.18
9	0.27
10	0.26
11	0.26
12	0.39
13	0.33
14	0.31
15	0.45
16	0.32
17	0.44
18	0.42
19	0.32
20	0.45
21	0.37
22	0.46
23	0.37
24	0.28
25	0.28
26	0.43
27	0.45
28	0.21
29	0.36
30	0.34
31	0.16
32	0.33
33	0.27
34	0.30
35	0.56
36	0.39
37	0.33
38	0.30
39	0.27
40	0.25

Plan Name:	STV-1	Administrator:	
Plan Type:		User:	

DISTRICT	Polsby- Popper
41	0.45
42	0.48
43	0.50
44	0.32
45	0.38
46	0.45
47	0.24
48	0.32
49	0.30
50	0.46

STV-1-Blue-Fair, Legal and Competitive Senate Districts: Population Deviation

	District	2010 Pop	Ideal Pop	Deviation	Deviation %
	1	196,665	190,710	5,955	3.12%
	2	183,118	190,710	-7,592	-3.98%
	3	182,039	190,710	-8,671	-4.55%
	4	192,477	190,710	1,767	0.93%
	5	189,510	190,710	-1,200	-0.63%
	6	187,925	190,710	-2,785	-1.46%
	7	182,118	190,710	-8,592	-4.51%
	8	200,134	190,710	9,424	4.94%
	9	197,371	190,710	6,661	3.49%
	10	188,148	190,710	-2,562	-1.34%
	11	183,829	190,710	-6,881	-3.61%
	12	187,221	190,710	-3,489	-1.83%
	13	192,266	190,710	1,556	0.82%
	14	184,251	190,710	-6,459	-3.39%
	15	184,611	190,710	-6,099	-3.20%
	16	197,324	190,710	6,614	3.47%
	17	200,136	190,710	9,426	4.94%
	18	195,290	190,710	4,580	2.40%
	19	182,681	190,710	-8,029	-4.21%
	20	182,187	190,710	-8,523	-4.47%
	21	183,702	190,710	-7,008	-3.67%
	22	184,780	190,710	-5,930	-3.11%
	23	197,306	190,710	6,596	3.46%
	24	196,935	190,710	6,225	3.26%
	25	197,991	190,710	7,281	3.82%
	26	199,600	190,710	8,890	4.66%
	27	198,164	190,710	7,454	3.91%
	28	185,974	190,710	-4,736	-2.48%
	29	200,216	190,710	9,506	4.98%
	30	197,843	190,710	7,133	3.74%
	31	193,985	190,710	3,275	1.72%
	32	197,925	190,710	7,215	3.78%
	33	190,676	190,710	-34	-0.02%
	34	199,013	190,710	8,303	4.35%
	35	189,794	190,710	-916	-0.48%
	36	189,509	190,710	-1,201	-0.63%
	37	182,443	190,710	-8,267	-4.33%
	38	182,430	190,710	-8,280	-4.34%
	39	185,074	190,710	-5,636	-2.96%
	40	184,666	190,710	-6,044	-3.17%
	41	185,015	190,710	-5,695	-2.99%
	42	191,556	190,710	846	0.44%
	43	197,035	190,710	6,325	3.32%
	44	185,394	190,710	-5,316	-2.79%
	45	197,691	190,710	6,981	3.66%
	46	191,738	190,710	1,028	0.54%
	47	187,477	190,710	-3,233	-1.70%
	48	184,866	190,710	-5,844	-3.06%
	49	193,282	190,710	2,572	1.35%
	50	194,102	190,710	3,392	1.78%
Total:		9,535,483			

STV-1-Blue-Fair, Legal and Competitive Senate Districts: Population 2010, US Senate 2010, President 2012

	2010 Census		US Senate 2010: Marshall-Burr-Beitler								US President 2012: Obama-Romney-Johnson							
District	Total Pop	18+ Pop	Dem	Dem %	Rep	Rep %	Lib	Lib %	Write-In	Write-In %	Dem	Dem %	Rep	Rep %	Lib	Lib %	Write-In	Write-In %
1	196,665	153,426	25,606	43.60%	31,904	54.33%	1,196	2.04%	19	0.03%	45,482	48.87%	46,490	49.95%	950	1.02%	150	0.16%
2	183,118	143,986	17,393	31.26%	37,109	66.70%	1,070	1.92%	63	0.11%	31,516	35.91%	55,323	63.03%	761	0.87%	168	0.19%
3	182,039	141,242	31,118	52.62%	27,064	45.76%	926	1.57%	30	0.05%	50,170	56.97%	37,383	42.45%	406	0.46%	104	0.12%
4	192,477	145,928	32,883	57.59%	23,457	41.08%	750	1.31%	10	0.02%	56,149	61.10%	35,208	38.32%	433	0.47%	100	0.11%
5	189,510	146,760	22,397	47.49%	24,190	51.29%	556	1.18%	20	0.04%	45,546	52.42%	40,573	46.70%	648	0.75%	117	0.13%
6	187,925	140,779	10,015	33.20%	19,362	64.19%	769	2.55%	16	0.05%	20,842	36.78%	35,080	61.91%	588	1.04%	155	0.27%
7	182,118	137,302	20,490	42.11%	27,572	56.66%	583	1.20%	14	0.03%	37,221	46.96%	41,578	52.46%	434	0.55%	22	0.03%
8	200,134	158,647	26,597	38.48%	41,161	59.54%	1,344	1.94%	25	0.04%	42,274	42.05%	57,243	56.94%	821	0.82%	202	0.20%
9	197,371	158,278	23,736	38.00%	37,303	59.72%	1,394	2.23%	32	0.05%	46,065	45.68%	53,212	52.77%	1,246	1.24%	312	0.31%
10	188,148	140,059	18,831	38.35%	29,583	60.25%	677	1.38%	11	0.02%	29,519	39.62%	44,352	59.53%	512	0.69%	120	0.16%
11	183,829	135,099	22,969	41.14%	31,907	57.15%	930	1.67%	22	0.04%	40,589	44.93%	48,851	54.08%	698	0.77%	194	0.21%
12	187,221	136,301	17,201	38.51%	26,602	59.55%	851	1.91%	17	0.04%	29,998	40.35%	43,442	58.43%	736	0.99%	171	0.23%
13	192,266	142,807	19,514	49.67%	19,146	48.73%	605	1.54%	25	0.06%	36,038	53.66%	30,451	45.34%	520	0.77%	156	0.23%
14	184,251	132,553	30,509	62.25%	17,586	35.88%	892	1.82%	20	0.04%	61,232	68.41%	27,299	30.50%	819	0.92%	154	0.17%
15	184,611	146,610	32,504	48.92%	32,357	48.70%	1,531	2.30%	45	0.07%	60,624	55.44%	47,022	43.00%	1,497	1.37%	205	0.19%
16	197,324	151,342	25,727	48.25%	26,011	48.79%	1,558	2.92%	20	0.04%	57,435	55.96%	43,230	42.12%	1,775	1.73%	200	0.19%
17	200,136	141,635	27,227	44.75%	32,199	52.92%	1,391	2.29%	24	0.04%	54,323	51.06%	50,679	47.64%	1,228	1.15%	158	0.15%
18	195,290	139,997	25,404	39.68%	37,110	57.96%	1,477	2.31%	37	0.06%	47,084	44.26%	57,969	54.49%	1,120	1.05%	209	0.20%
19	182,681	132,465	20,255	47.06%	22,052	51.23%	720	1.67%	18	0.04%	41,054	52.66%	36,181	46.41%	566	0.73%	161	0.21%
20	182,187	139,409	41,285	77.02%	11,481	21.42%	811	1.51%	27	0.05%	79,311	79.69%	19,181	19.27%	912	0.92%	117	0.12%
21	183,702	134,192	21,087	61.32%	12,741	37.05%	537	1.56%	22	0.06%	44,814	67.12%	21,304	31.91%	528	0.79%	122	0.18%
22	184,780	144,790	29,032	53.71%	23,989	44.38%	1,022	1.89%	14	0.03%	53,929	58.37%	37,489	40.57%	804	0.87%	176	0.19%
23	197,306	155,496	43,402	61.53%	25,502	36.15%	1,599	2.27%	35	0.05%	72,262	64.41%	38,204	34.05%	1,386	1.24%	339	0.30%
24	196,935	149,166	19,208	34.15%	35,635	63.35%	1,383	2.46%	26	0.05%	36,684	39.25%	55,790	59.69%	806	0.86%	181	0.19%
25	197,991	152,423	24,146	43.32%	30,550	54.81%	1,018	1.83%	23	0.04%	41,643	45.66%	48,824	53.53%	631	0.69%	110	0.12%
26	199,600	155,552	18,076	32.70%	35,727	64.63%	1,451	2.62%	24	0.04%	32,234	36.31%	55,470	62.48%	873	0.98%	205	0.23%
27	198,164	155,398	28,168	50.49%	26,480	47.47%	1,099	1.97%	37	0.07%	65,509	61.88%	39,060	36.89%	1,011	0.95%	289	0.27%
28	185,974	140,137	28,383	59.14%	18,869	39.32%	704	1.47%	38	0.08%	61,954	67.24%	29,415	31.93%	578	0.63%	187	0.20%
29	200,216	151,948	11,474	23.19%	36,622	74.02%	1,339	2.71%	44	0.09%	25,343	28.15%	63,588	70.64%	925	1.03%	157	0.17%
30	197,843	148,320	15,298	28.04%	37,834	69.35%	1,397	2.56%	26	0.05%	30,033	32.23%	61,877	66.41%	978	1.05%	290	0.31%
31	193,985	147,279	18,171	28.50%	44,276	69.44%	1,293	2.03%	22	0.03%	35,750	34.47%	66,844	64.45%	1,068	1.03%	49	0.05%
32	197,925	149,479	26,205	58.15%	18,138	40.25%	704	1.56%	17	0.04%	62,308	68.76%	27,611	30.47%	700	0.77%	0	0.00%
33	190,676	145,058	14,509	29.44%	33,627	68.24%	1,119	2.27%	20	0.04%	25,330	30.83%	55,787	67.90%	876	1.07%	173	0.21%
34	199,013	152,338	17,207	31.47%	36,147	66.12%	1,285	2.35%	32	0.06%	31,078	34.17%	58,644	64.47%	953	1.05%	284	0.31%
35	189,794	132,039	13,415	29.02%	31,743	68.68%	1,034	2.24%	30	0.06%	30,954	35.05%	56,278	63.72%	854	0.97%	228	0.26%
36	189,509	137,603	16,691	32.42%	33,671	65.41%	1,115	2.17%	0	0.00%	34,337	38.31%	54,340	60.63%	939	1.05%	14	0.02%
37	182,443	142,726	25,058	55.21%	19,432	42.81%	876	1.93%	24	0.05%	55,069	62.72%	31,612	36.00%	900	1.03%	221	0.25%
38	182,430	134,060	24,368	66.35%	11,716	31.90%	619	1.69%	21	0.06%	59,400	73.97%	20,118	25.05%	605	0.75%	183	0.23%
39	185,074	137,484	20,229	39.23%	30,306	58.78%	1,000	1.94%	25	0.05%	45,247	48.42%	47,153	50.46%	846	0.91%	198	0.21%
40	184,666	137,253	23,086	52.66%	19,992	45.60%	734	1.67%	31	0.07%	52,140	60.73%	32,690	38.08%	782	0.91%	243	0.28%
41	185,015	134,767	24,803	51.75%	22,321	46.57%	788	1.64%	14	0.03%	55,276	58.12%	38,882	40.88%	759	0.80%	194	0.20%
42	191,556	146,308	16,533	30.70%	35,956	66.76%	1,337	2.48%	33	0.06%	28,675	33.04%	56,787	65.43%	1,033	1.19%	293	0.34%
43	197,035	149,991	14,895	31.63%	31,082	66.01%	1,113	2.36%	0	0.00%	31,879	37.10%	53,179	61.89%	869	1.01%	0	0.00%
44	185,394	141,718	17,792	34.23%	33,049	63.59%	1,112	2.14%	22	0.04%	29,375	34.80%	54,018	63.99%	803	0.95%	224	0.27%
45	197,691	158,177	20,538	34.30%	37,669	62.91%	1,646	2.75%	29	0.05%	31,344	35.02%	56,362	62.98%	1,418	1.58%	369	0.41%
46	191,738	149,705	16,531	33.18%	31,940	64.11%	1,325	2.66%	23	0.05%	26,481	33.57%	51,262	64.98%	1,012	1.28%	132	0.17%
47	187,477	147,841	21,314	34.98%	38,045	62.44%	1,540	2.53%	33	0.05%	29,486	35.14%	53,113	63.30%	1,022	1.22%	282	0.34%
48	184,866	147,107	22,200	34.84%	39,941	62.68%	1,558	2.45%	21	0.03%	36,540	39.02%	55,677	59.45%	1,092	1.17%	344	0.37%
49	193,282	154,410	33,055	52.87%	27,761	44.40%	1,664	2.66%	44	0.07%	59,546	57.71%	41,650	40.36%	1,433	1.39%	560	0.54%
50	194,102	156,458	25,165	38.43%	38,165	58.28%	2,112	3.23%	38	0.06%	34,201	38.27%	53,578	59.95%	1,294	1.45%	297	0.33%
Totals:	9,535,483	7,253,848	1,141,700	43.04%	1,454,082	54.82%	55,554	2.09%	1,263	0.05%	2,171,293	48.33%	2,267,353	50.47%	44,448	0.99%	9,519	0.21%

STV-1-Blue-Fair, Legal and Competitive Senate Districts: Governor 2012, Lieutenant Governor 2012, US Senate 2014

	Governor 2012: Dalton-McCrory-Howe								Lieutenant Governor 2012: Coleman-Forest				US Senate 2014: Tillis-Hagan-Haugh							
District	Dem	Dem %	Rep	Rep %	Lib	Lib %	Write-In	Write-In %	Dem	Dem %	Rep	Rep %	Rep	Rep %	Dem	Dem %	Lib	Lib %	Write-In	Write-In %
1	44,567	48.84%	44,051	48.28%	2,609	2.86%	20	0.02%	48,060	53.59%	41,627	46.41%	30,750	50.80%	28,027	46.30%	1,702	2.81%	48	0.08%
2	28,530	32.65%	57,217	65.47%	1,615	1.85%	26	0.03%	32,786	38.21%	53,018	61.79%	36,899	60.46%	21,609	35.41%	2,340	3.83%	182	0.30%
3	48,711	55.68%	37,737	43.14%	1,024	1.17%	10	0.01%	52,590	61.35%	33,128	38.65%	24,793	41.50%	32,737	54.80%	2,084	3.49%	128	0.21%
4	54,777	59.84%	35,877	39.20%	869	0.95%	10	0.01%	57,424	63.60%	32,867	36.40%	22,999	38.20%	35,596	59.12%	1,565	2.60%	45	0.07%
5	42,553	49.27%	42,332	49.02%	1,463	1.69%	16	0.02%	46,467	54.65%	38,559	45.35%	24,088	47.07%	25,389	49.62%	1,612	3.15%	81	0.16%
6	18,744	33.55%	35,659	63.82%	1,459	2.61%	13	0.02%	22,010	40.37%	32,513	59.63%	21,858	61.65%	11,859	33.45%	1,681	4.74%	59	0.17%
7	35,570	45.13%	42,240	53.59%	988	1.25%	24	0.03%	38,551	49.66%	39,078	50.34%	26,667	51.80%	23,095	44.86%	1,663	3.23%	55	0.11%
8	37,873	38.02%	59,764	59.99%	1,972	1.98%	15	0.02%	44,067	45.14%	53,565	54.86%	37,130	53.02%	28,989	41.40%	3,786	5.41%	125	0.18%
9	39,195	39.52%	56,871	57.34%	3,086	3.11%	30	0.03%	45,150	46.86%	51,202	53.14%	31,405	48.37%	30,133	46.41%	3,278	5.05%	109	0.17%
10	28,473	38.35%	44,818	60.36%	943	1.27%	17	0.02%	31,631	43.40%	41,252	56.60%	27,885	57.54%	18,550	38.28%	1,938	4.00%	91	0.19%
11	38,003	42.21%	50,626	56.23%	1,394	1.55%	18	0.02%	41,506	46.84%	47,097	53.16%	32,616	53.09%	26,689	43.44%	2,052	3.34%	81	0.13%
12	27,756	37.50%	44,714	60.41%	1,515	2.05%	27	0.04%	31,592	43.49%	41,050	56.51%	26,388	55.90%	18,724	39.67%	2,010	4.26%	82	0.17%
13	37,211	56.10%	27,970	42.17%	1,133	1.71%	20	0.03%	41,068	63.31%	23,805	36.69%	17,801	44.87%	19,985	50.38%	1,822	4.59%	64	0.16%
14	56,372	63.23%	30,777	34.52%	1,990	2.23%	19	0.02%	61,046	69.36%	26,962	30.64%	16,887	29.93%	37,923	67.22%	1,517	2.69%	90	0.16%
15	52,598	48.55%	52,506	48.47%	3,196	2.95%	28	0.03%	59,004	55.73%	46,870	44.27%	30,367	39.87%	43,560	57.19%	2,129	2.79%	117	0.15%
16	48,937	48.30%	48,647	48.02%	3,698	3.65%	30	0.03%	55,096	55.90%	43,461	44.10%	26,082	39.66%	37,333	56.77%	2,217	3.37%	131	0.20%
17	47,488	44.92%	55,428	52.43%	2,776	2.63%	23	0.02%	53,335	51.53%	50,159	48.47%	33,628	46.25%	36,712	50.49%	2,237	3.08%	138	0.19%
18	40,709	38.49%	62,596	59.19%	2,412	2.28%	39	0.04%	46,026	44.36%	57,725	55.64%	39,037	51.90%	33,636	44.72%	2,413	3.21%	134	0.18%
19	38,279	49.75%	37,028	48.12%	1,618	2.10%	18	0.02%	41,891	55.41%	33,709	44.59%	22,312	46.87%	23,574	49.53%	1,655	3.48%	58	0.12%
20	73,387	74.54%	22,542	22.90%	2,471	2.51%	48	0.05%	77,499	79.96%	19,420	20.04%	10,518	16.86%	50,628	81.15%	1,169	1.87%	77	0.12%
21	41,914	63.83%	22,238	33.87%	1,490	2.27%	20	0.03%	44,657	68.90%	20,160	31.10%	12,513	32.70%	24,523	64.08%	1,175	3.07%	58	0.15%
22	49,535	54.22%	39,649	43.40%	2,136	2.34%	33	0.04%	54,001	60.62%	35,082	39.38%	23,342	38.86%	34,836	57.99%	1,818	3.03%	77	0.13%
23	65,604	59.22%	42,009	37.92%	3,103	2.80%	63	0.06%	70,358	64.96%	37,947	35.04%	24,700	30.65%	53,699	66.63%	2,120	2.63%	72	0.09%
24	32,250	34.83%	58,404	63.07%	1,921	2.07%	20	0.02%	36,177	39.90%	54,499	60.10%	36,513	58.39%	23,702	37.90%	2,230	3.57%	91	0.15%
25	38,495	42.60%	50,372	55.74%	1,458	1.61%	44	0.05%	43,394	49.27%	44,680	50.73%	32,665	52.10%	27,623	44.06%	2,319	3.70%	87	0.14%
26	29,604	33.52%	56,922	64.45%	1,772	2.01%	20	0.02%	34,148	39.62%	52,042	60.38%	34,687	59.30%	20,600	35.21%	3,067	5.24%	145	0.25%
27	57,747	55.20%	44,105	42.16%	2,726	2.61%	44	0.04%	63,422	61.95%	38,961	38.05%	25,284	37.21%	40,986	60.32%	1,584	2.33%	96	0.14%
28	56,826	62.31%	32,715	35.87%	1,623	1.78%	32	0.04%	60,684	67.58%	29,114	32.42%	18,907	32.87%	37,287	64.82%	1,264	2.20%	64	0.11%
29	22,076	24.57%	66,006	73.45%	1,771	1.97%	11	0.01%	25,784	29.35%	62,069	70.65%	39,173	69.31%	15,087	26.69%	2,167	3.83%	94	0.17%
30	23,382	25.22%	67,657	72.97%	1,652	1.78%	30	0.03%	29,848	33.11%	60,303	66.89%	39,563	64.03%	18,656	30.19%	3,385	5.48%	187	0.30%
31	29,981	28.89%	71,624	69.02%	2,136	2.06%	28	0.03%	35,209	34.75%	66,104	65.25%	42,705	61.88%	23,879	34.60%	2,283	3.31%	141	0.20%
32	56,683	63.04%	31,341	34.85%	1,875	2.09%	22	0.02%	60,851	68.94%	27,421	31.06%	16,375	30.50%	35,874	66.83%	1,340	2.50%	93	0.17%
33	22,078	26.93%	58,230	71.04%	1,648	2.01%	14	0.02%	26,730	33.30%	53,543	66.70%	33,575	65.72%	15,182	29.72%	2,234	4.37%	98	0.19%
34	24,785	27.34%	64,437	71.09%	1,406	1.55%	17	0.02%	31,147	35.25%	57,223	64.75%	35,720	61.30%	18,960	32.54%	3,436	5.90%	156	0.27%
35	23,416	26.70%	62,790	71.60%	1,463	1.67%	22	0.03%	29,912	35.04%	55,458	64.96%	34,426	63.13%	18,044	33.09%	1,864	3.42%	196	0.36%
36	25,791	28.80%	62,144	69.39%	1,621	1.81%	2	0.00%	34,159	39.33%	52,691	60.67%	32,506	57.95%	21,038	37.51%	2,379	4.24%	167	0.30%
37	42,296	48.74%	42,669	49.17%	1,776	2.05%	31	0.04%	51,891	61.84%	32,016	38.16%	17,460	34.25%	32,058	62.88%	1,401	2.75%	63	0.12%
38	51,070	64.52%	26,750	33.80%	1,320	1.67%	13	0.02%	57,243	73.76%	20,361	26.24%	10,828	25.10%	31,074	72.04%	1,162	2.69%	71	0.16%
39	32,397	34.87%	58,981	63.49%	1,495	1.61%	22	0.02%	42,092	46.59%	48,250	53.41%	27,147	49.60%	26,020	47.54%	1,465	2.68%	103	0.19%
40	42,359	49.70%	41,263	48.41%	1,589	1.86%	26	0.03%	50,126	60.16%	33,190	39.84%	18,040	37.17%	29,179	60.13%	1,223	2.52%	88	0.18%
41	44,173	46.87%	48,539	51.50%	1,510	1.60%	27	0.03%	52,782	57.53%	38,966	42.47%	21,810	39.05%	32,540	58.26%	1,374	2.46%	129	0.23%
42	22,115	25.57%	62,937	72.78%	1,402	1.62%	19	0.02%	28,289	33.50%	56,166	66.50%	35,350	63.19%	17,371	31.05%	3,046	5.44%	176	0.31%
43	25,879	30.15%	58,602	68.27%	1,337	1.56%	18	0.02%	31,620	37.82%	51,992	62.18%	31,406	60.24%	18,283	35.07%	2,321	4.45%	123	0.24%
44	25,417	30.23%	57,452	68.34%	1,189	1.41%	15	0.02%	29,967	36.62%	51,872	63.38%	33,139	60.95%	18,439	33.91%	2,656	4.88%	138	0.25%
45	27,192	30.58%	59,157	66.53%	2,547	2.86%	23	0.03%	32,134	37.38%	53,837	62.62%	35,494	59.74%	20,343	34.24%	3,442	5.79%	136	0.23%
46	20,724	26.21%	56,753	71.77%	1,579	2.00%	18	0.02%	27,156	35.42%	49,516	64.58%	31,230	61.54%	16,228	31.98%	3,151	6.21%	136	0.27%
47	31,588	37.71%	50,318	60.07%	1,840	2.20%	17	0.02%	31,802	39.23%	49,272	60.77%	34,520	58.39%	21,336	36.09%	3,184	5.39%	80	0.14%
48	32,660	35.31%	57,355	62.00%	2,456	2.66%	30	0.03%	36,359	40.13%	54,243	59.87%	36,913	55.81%	26,545	40.13%	2,601	3.93%	87	0.13%
49	54,517	53.45%	43,870	43.01%	3,574	3.50%	32	0.03%	58,927	58.95%	41,030	41.05%	25,653	36.55%	41,569	59.23%	2,875	4.10%	89	0.13%
50	32,983	37.31%	52,535	59.42%	2,866	3.24%	27	0.03%	36,353	42.19%	49,816	57.81%	35,080	55.57%	24,594	38.96%	3,343	5.30%	115	0.18%
Totals:	1,925,270	43.18%	2,437,224	54.67%	94,512	2.12%	1,191	0.03%	2,174,021	49.88%	2,184,891	50.12%	1,416,834	48.84%	1,370,303	47.23%	108,779	3.75%	5,251	0.18%

STV-1-Blue-Fair, Legal and Competitive Senate Districts: President 2016, US Senate 2016, Governor 2016

	US President 2016: Trump-Clinton-Johnson								US Senate 2016: Burr-Ross-Haugh						Governor 2016: Cooper-McCrory-Cecil					
District	Rep	Rep %	Dem	Dem %	Lib	Lib %	Write-In	Write-In %	Rep	Rep %	Dem	Dem %	Lib	Lib %	Dem	Dem %	Rep	Rep %	Lib	Lib %
1	51,124	54.37%	39,690	42.21%	2,437	2.59%	781	0.83%	50,422	54.75%	39,232	42.60%	2,441	2.65%	40,704	43.98%	50,100	54.13%	1,749	1.89%
2	58,542	63.89%	30,012	32.76%	2,242	2.45%	829	0.90%	58,109	64.13%	28,994	32.00%	3,512	3.88%	30,960	34.02%	58,265	64.02%	1,788	1.96%
3	37,998	44.82%	45,070	53.16%	1,193	1.41%	523	0.62%	37,690	45.00%	44,065	52.61%	2,002	2.39%	44,887	53.29%	38,505	45.71%	842	1.00%
4	34,714	39.56%	51,323	58.49%	1,231	1.40%	485	0.55%	34,873	40.05%	50,550	58.06%	1,648	1.89%	52,322	59.88%	34,269	39.22%	793	0.91%
5	40,021	45.23%	45,333	51.24%	2,245	2.54%	881	1.00%	41,386	47.29%	43,487	49.70%	2,634	3.01%	45,427	51.71%	41,041	46.71%	1,389	1.58%
6	40,099	64.39%	19,577	31.44%	1,985	3.19%	610	0.98%	39,097	63.90%	19,028	31.10%	3,064	5.01%	20,040	32.62%	39,685	64.59%	1,718	2.80%
7	41,031	53.33%	33,966	44.15%	1,362	1.77%	579	0.75%	40,925	53.84%	33,171	43.64%	1,921	2.53%	33,894	44.35%	41,571	54.40%	958	1.25%
8	69,138	60.31%	41,895	36.54%	2,660	2.32%	948	0.83%	67,784	60.07%	40,579	35.96%	4,470	3.96%	44,922	39.64%	65,885	58.14%	2,506	2.21%
9	55,097	50.39%	48,749	44.58%	3,901	3.57%	1,602	1.47%	55,887	51.89%	46,846	43.49%	4,974	4.62%	54,155	50.05%	50,866	47.01%	3,173	2.93%
10	47,702	62.24%	27,203	35.49%	1,273	1.66%	463	0.60%	47,147	62.21%	26,654	35.17%	1,984	2.62%	28,008	36.74%	47,284	62.03%	936	1.23%
11	51,518	53.73%	41,248	43.02%	2,225	2.32%	897	0.94%	51,624	54.15%	40,987	42.99%	2,723	2.86%	44,233	46.22%	50,017	52.26%	1,460	1.53%
12	46,852	59.32%	29,182	36.95%	2,188	2.77%	756	0.96%	46,317	59.13%	29,226	37.31%	2,788	3.56%	31,368	39.92%	45,449	57.85%	1,751	2.23%
13	34,909	54.33%	27,879	43.39%	1,101	1.71%	361	0.56%	33,313	53.25%	27,703	44.28%	1,548	2.47%	27,663	43.72%	34,916	55.19%	690	1.09%
14	26,574	28.68%	62,312	67.24%	2,559	2.76%	1,227	1.32%	27,986	30.39%	61,364	66.63%	2,751	2.99%	63,576	68.81%	27,053	29.28%	1,759	1.90%
15	39,391	34.02%	69,627	60.13%	4,485	3.87%	2,294	1.98%	45,951	39.83%	65,966	57.17%	3,465	3.00%	72,997	63.02%	40,371	34.86%	2,455	2.12%
16	37,083	33.13%	68,044	60.79%	4,670	4.17%	2,130	1.90%	42,725	38.47%	64,542	58.11%	3,793	3.42%	70,628	63.35%	37,938	34.03%	2,918	2.62%
17	51,168	42.87%	61,588	51.60%	4,600	3.85%	2,001	1.68%	55,373	46.67%	59,311	49.99%	3,955	3.33%	64,928	54.51%	51,415	43.17%	2,767	2.32%
18	58,234	49.25%	54,039	45.70%	3,923	3.32%	2,043	1.73%	62,033	52.74%	51,983	44.19%	3,608	3.07%	57,275	48.49%	58,479	49.51%	2,355	1.99%
19	37,167	46.63%	39,794	49.93%	2,027	2.54%	719	0.90%	37,307	47.42%	38,746	49.25%	2,613	3.32%	39,370	49.91%	37,786	47.90%	1,731	2.19%
20	15,777	14.92%	85,681	81.02%	2,641	2.50%	1,648	1.56%	19,147	18.20%	83,660	79.52%	2,399	2.28%	86,282	81.87%	17,383	16.49%	1,729	1.64%
21	21,858	33.10%	41,537	62.91%	1,923	2.91%	711	1.08%	22,264	34.15%	40,548	62.20%	2,376	3.64%	40,767	62.52%	22,775	34.93%	1,668	2.56%
22	37,268	38.56%	55,708	57.64%	2,361	2.44%	1,317	1.36%	39,080	40.76%	54,188	56.52%	2,611	2.72%	57,202	59.48%	37,334	38.82%	1,633	1.70%
23	35,663	29.19%	80,987	66.28%	3,534	2.89%	2,005	1.64%	39,933	32.86%	78,407	64.52%	3,177	2.61%	83,440	68.47%	36,205	29.71%	2,211	1.81%
24	56,615	57.26%	38,600	39.04%	2,591	2.62%	1,071	1.08%	57,758	58.84%	37,167	37.86%	3,233	3.29%	42,034	42.70%	54,556	55.42%	1,843	1.87%
25	51,626	55.82%	38,014	41.10%	2,073	2.24%	779	0.84%	50,943	55.86%	37,449	41.07%	2,798	3.07%	39,947	43.57%	50,130	54.68%	1,603	1.75%
26	60,988	66.81%	27,555	30.19%	1,986	2.18%	751	0.82%	59,681	65.99%	27,452	30.35%	3,312	3.66%	32,364	35.70%	56,417	62.23%	1,885	2.08%
27	33,546	31.51%	68,214	64.08%	3,017	2.83%	1,670	1.57%	36,886	34.96%	65,531	62.10%	3,105	2.94%	71,078	67.23%	32,370	30.62%	2,274	2.15%
28	28,554	31.17%	60,052	65.55%	2,031	2.22%	971	1.06%	29,493	32.58%	58,403	64.52%	2,617	2.89%	61,328	67.55%	27,609	30.41%	1,851	2.04%
29	67,349	70.56%	24,930	26.12%	2,290	2.40%	877	0.92%	66,392	70.17%	24,437	25.83%	3,781	4.00%	29,160	30.73%	63,593	67.01%	2,151	2.27%
30	68,634	68.50%	27,894	27.84%	2,583	2.58%	1,080	1.08%	66,829	67.44%	27,349	27.60%	4,916	4.96%	32,618	32.78%	64,115	64.43%	2,775	2.79%
31	65,896	60.73%	37,577	34.63%	3,524	3.25%	1,511	1.39%	68,778	63.68%	35,372	32.75%	3,856	3.57%	42,785	39.55%	62,861	58.11%	2,527	2.34%
32	25,697	28.06%	62,145	67.86%	2,482	2.71%	1,249	1.36%	28,809	31.72%	59,404	65.40%	2,616	2.88%	63,329	69.72%	25,530	28.11%	1,971	2.17%
33	61,447	71.12%	22,259	25.76%	2,062	2.39%	628	0.73%	60,373	70.54%	21,959	25.66%	3,259	3.81%	26,603	30.94%	57,516	66.90%	1,851	2.15%
34	64,774	68.70%	26,494	28.10%	2,181	2.31%	837	0.89%	62,061	66.50%	26,482	28.38%	4,782	5.12%	29,794	31.73%	61,866	65.89%	2,231	2.38%
35	61,627	62.37%	32,773	33.17%	3,156	3.19%	1,249	1.26%	62,768	64.34%	30,646	31.41%	4,148	4.25%	34,249	34.89%	61,659	62.80%	2,268	2.31%
36	58,898	58.78%	37,086	37.01%	2,957	2.95%	1,253	1.25%	58,847	59.32%	35,738	36.02%	4,620	4.66%	39,591	39.69%	57,611	57.75%	2,561	2.57%
37	25,125	27.56%	60,712	66.60%	3,691	4.05%	1,637	1.80%	31,346	34.73%	55,626	61.63%	3,282	3.64%	61,322	67.58%	27,014	29.77%	2,410	2.66%
38	20,889	24.64%	60,423	71.28%	2,409	2.84%	1,048	1.24%	22,680	27.16%	57,641	69.02%	3,195	3.83%	59,747	71.25%	21,985	26.22%	2,120	2.53%
39	39,788	41.73%	50,543	53.01%	3,344	3.51%	1,663	1.74%	44,653	47.25%	46,356	49.06%	3,486	3.69%	51,130	53.85%	41,554	43.76%	2,265	2.39%
40	30,464	33.86%	55,459	61.63%	2,647	2.94%	1,413	1.57%	32,603	36.64%	53,099	59.68%	3,268	3.67%	55,565	62.16%	31,707	35.47%	2,114	2.37%
41	37,612	36.40%	60,942	58.98%	3,279	3.17%	1,485	1.44%	40,259	39.39%	58,178	56.93%	3,759	3.68%	63,140	61.57%	36,496	35.59%	2,908	2.84%
42	62,200	68.66%	24,968	27.56%	2,410	2.66%	1,012	1.12%	60,484	67.58%	24,627	27.52%	4,390	4.90%	28,398	31.52%	59,501	66.04%	2,202	2.44%
43	58,532	63.77%	29,967	32.65%	2,319	2.53%	961	1.05%	57,121	63.01%	29,387	32.41%	4,151	4.58%	32,375	35.49%	56,833	62.29%	2,025	2.22%
44	60,549	67.77%	26,071	29.18%	1,947	2.18%	779	0.87%	58,536	66.29%	26,018	29.46%	3,755	4.25%	28,778	32.38%	58,278	65.57%	1,820	2.05%
45	63,181	65.37%	29,176	30.19%	2,845	2.94%	1,451	1.50%	62,262	65.17%	29,165	30.53%	4,110	4.30%	34,637	36.01%	59,233	61.57%	2,327	2.42%
46	59,157	70.85%	21,367	25.59%	2,003	2.40%	965	1.16%	56,771	68.88%	21,718	26.35%	3,937	4.78%	25,410	30.59%	55,667	67.01%	1,991	2.40%
47	62,657	69.28%	24,632	27.24%	2,027	2.24%	1,125	1.24%	58,592	65.91%	26,662	29.99%	3,648	4.10%	30,561	34.14%	56,662	63.29%	2,298	2.57%
48	59,387	57.55%	38,942	37.74%	3,068	2.97%	1,791	1.74%	59,206	58.02%	38,853	38.08%	3,980	3.90%	43,781	42.79%	55,594	54.34%	2,935	2.87%
49	42,657	38.15%	62,892	56.25%	3,333	2.98%	2,919	2.61%	42,590	38.49%	63,580	57.46%	4,477	4.05%	68,148	61.36%	39,430	35.50%	3,485	3.14%
50	62,972	64.60%	30,185	30.97%	2,908	2.98%	1,412	1.45%	59,345	61.97%	32,160	33.59%	4,252	4.44%	37,461	38.95%	55,660	57.87%	3,059	3.18%
Totals:	2,359,749	49.90%	2,180,316	46.10%	129,929	2.75%	59,397	1.26%	2,392,439	51.13%	2,119,696	45.30%	167,190	3.57%	2,300,381	48.95%	2,296,039	48.86%	102,729	2.19%

STV-1-Blue-Fair, Legal and Competitive Senate Districts: Lieutenant Governor 2016, Attorney General 2016

	Lieutenant Governor 2016: Forest-Coleman-Cole						Attorney General 2016: Stein-Newton			
District	Rep	Rep %	Dem	Dem %	Lib	Lib %	Dem	Dem %	Rep	Rep %
1	48,887	53.74%	39,694	43.63%	2,389	2.63%	41,583	46.48%	47,878	53.52%
2	57,464	64.37%	29,461	33.00%	2,347	2.63%	31,586	35.67%	56,959	64.33%
3	36,795	44.57%	44,483	53.88%	1,277	1.55%	46,645	56.99%	35,203	43.01%
4	34,410	39.91%	50,529	58.61%	1,273	1.48%	52,643	61.20%	33,369	38.80%
5	40,621	47.11%	43,512	50.47%	2,085	2.42%	46,133	53.94%	39,399	46.06%
6	38,286	63.97%	19,181	32.05%	2,380	3.98%	21,095	35.69%	38,018	64.31%
7	40,568	54.08%	33,075	44.09%	1,368	1.82%	35,414	47.66%	38,891	52.34%
8	67,778	61.04%	40,423	36.40%	2,836	2.55%	46,574	42.31%	63,502	57.69%
9	55,658	52.85%	45,433	43.14%	4,230	4.02%	52,224	50.00%	52,214	50.00%
10	46,933	62.83%	26,404	35.34%	1,367	1.83%	29,358	39.71%	44,564	60.29%
11	52,037	55.19%	40,239	42.67%	2,017	2.14%	43,676	46.53%	50,190	53.47%
12	46,585	60.10%	28,842	37.21%	2,084	2.69%	32,410	42.24%	44,322	57.76%
13	31,027	50.72%	28,932	47.29%	1,215	1.99%	31,776	52.53%	28,714	47.47%
14	28,031	30.74%	60,680	66.55%	2,465	2.70%	63,706	70.54%	26,604	29.46%
15	45,751	40.28%	64,068	56.40%	3,772	3.32%	71,293	63.24%	41,442	36.76%
16	42,225	38.80%	62,422	57.37%	4,168	3.83%	68,455	63.43%	39,460	36.57%
17	55,232	47.29%	57,859	49.54%	3,693	3.16%	63,090	54.53%	52,612	45.47%
18	62,942	54.13%	50,327	43.28%	3,013	2.59%	56,235	48.92%	58,710	51.08%
19	36,464	47.10%	38,411	49.62%	2,539	3.28%	41,278	53.58%	35,759	46.42%
20	18,790	18.06%	82,542	79.35%	2,689	2.59%	85,906	83.00%	17,600	17.00%
21	21,603	33.68%	40,287	62.81%	2,249	3.51%	42,148	66.20%	21,520	33.80%
22	39,001	41.35%	53,046	56.25%	2,262	2.40%	57,421	61.43%	36,054	38.57%
23	39,577	33.12%	76,646	64.14%	3,271	2.74%	81,625	68.71%	37,164	31.29%
24	57,615	59.53%	36,393	37.60%	2,775	2.87%	41,011	42.66%	55,113	57.34%
25	50,305	56.16%	37,163	41.49%	2,105	2.35%	40,658	45.81%	48,086	54.19%
26	58,619	66.04%	27,995	31.54%	2,147	2.42%	31,896	36.12%	56,400	63.88%
27	36,033	34.74%	64,454	62.14%	3,241	3.12%	68,969	66.84%	34,214	33.16%
28	29,033	32.50%	57,859	64.76%	2,447	2.74%	60,721	68.34%	28,136	31.66%
29	66,597	71.45%	24,203	25.97%	2,405	2.58%	28,221	30.46%	64,420	69.54%
30	68,327	70.14%	26,276	26.97%	2,819	2.89%	31,963	33.10%	64,604	66.90%
31	68,100	64.19%	34,971	32.96%	3,015	2.84%	41,064	38.92%	64,445	61.08%
32	27,418	30.75%	59,216	66.41%	2,532	2.84%	62,679	70.57%	26,137	29.43%
33	60,028	71.22%	22,140	26.27%	2,123	2.52%	25,906	30.85%	58,069	69.15%
34	63,686	69.23%	25,779	28.02%	2,523	2.74%	31,643	34.65%	59,668	65.35%
35	64,009	66.65%	29,246	30.45%	2,778	2.89%	34,286	36.04%	60,858	63.96%
36	60,075	61.47%	34,586	35.39%	3,075	3.15%	39,935	41.23%	56,928	58.77%
37	31,081	35.12%	53,922	60.92%	3,503	3.96%	58,945	67.06%	28,956	32.94%
38	22,878	27.80%	56,477	68.63%	2,941	3.57%	59,986	73.32%	21,827	26.68%
39	45,681	49.13%	44,296	47.64%	3,005	3.23%	49,880	54.11%	42,301	45.89%
40	33,294	37.91%	51,671	58.83%	2,866	3.26%	55,628	63.82%	31,540	36.18%
41	41,132	40.85%	56,351	55.97%	3,204	3.18%	61,108	61.18%	38,780	38.82%
42	62,124	70.39%	23,616	26.76%	2,521	2.86%	29,767	33.94%	57,931	66.06%
43	59,203	66.00%	28,144	31.38%	2,351	2.62%	33,269	37.48%	55,502	62.52%
44	60,310	69.07%	24,946	28.57%	2,066	2.37%	30,418	35.20%	56,007	64.80%
45	61,390	65.72%	29,044	31.09%	2,974	3.18%	34,204	36.97%	58,302	63.03%
46	58,375	71.73%	21,046	25.86%	1,958	2.41%	26,887	33.35%	53,722	66.65%
47	58,679	67.02%	26,179	29.90%	2,697	3.08%	29,406	33.95%	57,204	66.05%
48	59,503	59.12%	37,910	37.67%	3,237	3.22%	41,434	41.50%	58,406	58.50%
49	41,430	38.08%	62,703	57.63%	4,673	4.29%	67,209	62.26%	40,747	37.74%
50	59,029	62.59%	31,893	33.82%	3,390	3.59%	35,488	38.03%	57,825	61.97%
Totals:	2,390,619	51.88%	2,084,975	45.25%	132,360	2.87%	2,294,855	50.20%	2,276,276	49.80%

EXHIBIT C

PLAINTIFFS' HOUSE PLAN RACIAL DATA

Plaintiffs' 2017 House Map
BVAP and Black Voter Registration Data

Dist	BVAP	BVR 10	BVR 17	BDVR 10
1	9.20%	7.59%	6.83%	16.39%
2	33.38%	32.58%	33.20%	49.43%
3	39.71%	38.57%	38.39%	55.04%
4	23.30%	27.09%	25.51%	47.55%
5	44.32%	43.82%	44.59%	62.11%
6	27.75%	29.17%	27.81%	49.74%
7	32.00%	32.54%	32.23%	55.26%
8	38.11%	40.57%	41.15%	61.09%
9	25.43%	25.16%	28.58%	45.42%
10	37.25%	38.92%	39.91%	58.13%
11	16.94%	17.95%	17.56%	32.81%
12	17.75%	18.20%	18.10%	40.23%
13	9.41%	9.39%	8.63%	22.35%
14	22.54%	25.79%	26.28%	49.71%
15	10.72%	10.70%	9.76%	25.85%
16	21.21%	21.03%	19.18%	37.24%
17	7.97%	7.46%	6.48%	17.19%
18	29.24%	30.64%	27.80%	52.29%
19	6.33%	5.35%	5.96%	13.17%
20	8.24%	7.72%	7.27%	19.28%
21	40.32%	41.99%	43.07%	62.05%
22	32.97%	36.69%	36.15%	54.37%
23	51.83%	54.51%	55.45%	67.62%
24	40.40%	41.79%	42.83%	62.80%
25	34.04%	33.32%	37.41%	54.88%
26	13.32%	13.15%	14.30%	33.12%
27	53.71%	53.62%	55.31%	64.68%
28	19.17%	21.15%	20.90%	39.08%
29	44.81%	46.27%	43.30%	61.67%
30	25.36%	24.98%	24.80%	38.50%
31	45.69%	50.32%	47.88%	67.53%
32	43.60%	45.72%	45.16%	61.30%
33	44.74%	48.58%	47.01%	69.21%
34	14.13%	11.90%	12.35%	23.93%
35	25.38%	24.23%	24.69%	49.59%
36	7.74%	7.20%	7.08%	17.98%
37	13.83%	12.32%	11.97%	30.89%
38	44.10%	47.23%	42.37%	63.77%
39	29.01%	30.52%	32.26%	53.74%
40	9.76%	8.67%	9.60%	22.01%
41	7.40%	7.36%	6.78%	19.46%
42	35.25%	43.86%	43.30%	68.06%
43	44.69%	47.22%	45.85%	68.17%

44	34.70%	34.74%	38.26%	54.29%
45	33.71%	36.33%	37.24%	61.54%
46	32.29%	35.56%	36.29%	43.13%
47	20.07%	24.02%	23.47%	28.61%
48	36.13%	38.39%	39.69%	56.00%
49	13.29%	11.01%	11.19%	21.16%
50	21.81%	21.83%	19.93%	36.17%
51	19.99%	21.51%	21.69%	37.77%
52	12.96%	12.79%	12.40%	35.99%
53	19.76%	20.57%	21.08%	39.82%
54	15.74%	16.06%	14.42%	29.30%
55	24.12%	22.88%	22.05%	44.43%
56	9.94%	9.66%	9.28%	14.67%
57	22.38%	20.16%	23.46%	34.62%
58	44.28%	46.84%	47.75%	71.39%
59	44.76%	47.34%	47.78%	70.08%
60	42.75%	47.13%	49.34%	69.54%
61	25.08%	23.05%	28.81%	45.84%
62	15.06%	12.78%	14.87%	28.97%
63	19.18%	19.73%	20.34%	37.93%
64	18.52%	20.22%	20.57%	41.07%
65	19.61%	20.30%	20.49%	37.62%
66	26.19%	28.66%	29.78%	42.46%
67	6.09%	5.12%	5.65%	14.34%
68	11.70%	11.69%	11.59%	34.66%
69	12.74%	12.87%	13.69%	32.85%
70	6.30%	6.51%	6.95%	19.59%
71	35.45%	40.89%	38.60%	66.94%
72	34.89%	37.90%	36.57%	64.78%
73	4.93%	4.88%	5.37%	15.17%
74	20.31%	19.77%	21.61%	40.60%
75	22.10%	21.05%	23.58%	39.14%
76	18.88%	19.41%	19.17%	38.99%
77	21.82%	22.01%	23.94%	46.06%
78	6.51%	6.45%	6.51%	20.19%
79	7.69%	7.96%	8.06%	24.71%
80	8.41%	8.80%	9.49%	26.55%
81	9.14%	9.44%	9.28%	23.29%
82	11.06%	10.55%	13.98%	27.98%
83	20.18%	21.48%	23.92%	44.66%
84	13.85%	14.38%	14.61%	32.76%
85	3.50%	1.78%	1.90%	5.31%
86	6.27%	6.62%	6.65%	14.07%
87	4.87%	5.16%	5.11%	13.57%
88	24.38%	25.31%	23.98%	47.26%
89	8.61%	9.00%	8.85%	24.30%
90	3.44%	3.45%	3.40%	7.74%

91	5.10%	5.32%	5.00%	13.49%
92	34.18%	36.24%	37.57%	61.79%
93	1.59%	1.22%	1.90%	2.55%
94	5.74%	4.63%	4.61%	12.34%
95	9.85%	9.52%	9.32%	27.11%
96	8.42%	7.96%	9.20%	21.73%
97	5.67%	5.58%	5.64%	14.30%
98	14.83%	14.10%	16.12%	34.57%
99	41.99%	48.39%	52.44%	70.40%
100	38.24%	41.73%	44.91%	63.74%
101	47.78%	49.81%	50.53%	71.47%
102	31.02%	33.06%	32.53%	56.03%
103	21.90%	21.25%	24.37%	42.22%
104	8.00%	6.76%	7.69%	18.55%
105	9.54%	8.29%	10.54%	23.10%
106	46.71%	48.31%	49.40%	67.89%
107	43.12%	43.02%	45.62%	71.12%
108	14.43%	14.36%	16.51%	32.16%
109	18.88%	18.56%	20.52%	39.93%
110	15.30%	16.34%	16.94%	34.17%
111	16.32%	17.67%	18.25%	33.31%
112	10.23%	9.04%	9.02%	17.76%
113	3.20%	3.01%	3.08%	8.35%
114	12.57%	12.06%	11.07%	19.44%
115	2.71%	2.02%	2.13%	3.89%
116	3.03%	2.45%	3.37%	5.08%
117	3.62%	3.35%	3.49%	9.67%
118	1.12%	0.83%	0.92%	1.42%
119	1.80%	1.36%	1.74%	2.29%
120	1.12%	0.70%	0.75%	1.48%

EXHIBIT D

PLAINTIFFS' SENATE PLAN RACIAL DATA

***Plaintiffs' 2017 Senate Map
BVAP and Black Registration Data***

Dist	BVAP	BVR 2010	BVR 2017	BDVR 2010
1	28.44%	26.91%	26.23%	44.96%
2	15.83%	15.88%	15.12%	34.57%
3	44.36%	45.28%	45.52%	60.51%
4	47.46%	49.46%	50.52%	65.53%
5	32.94%	33.42%	35.11%	53.82%
6	16.88%	19.90%	19.17%	41.27%
7	33.93%	36.14%	36.74%	58.07%
8	18.42%	18.59%	16.42%	36.91%
9	12.32%	11.88%	11.34%	26.80%
10	22.47%	25.39%	24.68%	45.96%
11	27.66%	27.40%	28.76%	50.86%
12	19.67%	20.91%	21.03%	39.45%
13	26.37%	29.41%	29.42%	36.05%
14	40.88%	43.91%	43.36%	65.65%
15	14.29%	12.22%	12.24%	23.48%
16	11.40%	10.58%	10.58%	23.04%
17	22.66%	22.59%	20.25%	46.67%
18	18.40%	17.13%	17.56%	38.46%
19	32.63%	33.86%	35.51%	55.75%
20	43.80%	46.54%	43.78%	62.70%
21	41.03%	47.06%	46.71%	68.91%
22	27.70%	26.87%	26.59%	42.73%
23	12.81%	12.84%	11.81%	21.75%
24	16.95%	17.24%	17.78%	36.83%
25	25.89%	26.07%	25.66%	46.28%
26	15.14%	15.82%	15.40%	31.89%
27	30.45%	29.59%	33.77%	48.64%
28	44.66%	46.66%	48.76%	70.39%
29	8.39%	8.20%	9.65%	23.24%
30	10.12%	10.26%	10.28%	27.69%
31	9.04%	8.73%	9.58%	24.22%
32	38.43%	42.59%	41.56%	64.43%
33	10.24%	10.78%	10.94%	27.17%
34	14.25%	14.35%	15.46%	33.96%
35	12.31%	12.40%	12.86%	33.02%
36	14.10%	14.03%	16.88%	34.17%
37	28.71%	29.04%	27.61%	50.61%
38	46.17%	50.63%	49.90%	72.90%
39	16.47%	15.00%	17.34%	35.19%
40	30.15%	31.02%	35.77%	56.36%
41	30.03%	29.05%	32.42%	56.64%
42	8.03%	7.71%	8.08%	20.72%
43	14.75%	15.00%	16.78%	33.19%
44	13.30%	13.74%	13.97%	29.33%

45	2.64%	2.20%	2.52%	5.11%
46	5.82%	5.10%	5.13%	12.72%
47	5.33%	4.77%	4.90%	10.20%
48	3.50%	3.15%	3.40%	8.32%
49	6.78%	6.30%	6.00%	11.39%
50	1.38%	0.99%	1.16%	1.90%

EXHIBIT E

ENACTED HOUSE PLAN RACIAL DATA

Enacted 2017 House Plan
BVAP and Black Registration Data

Dist	BVAP	BVR 2010	BVR 2017	BDVR 2010
1	39.71%	38.57%	38.39%	55.04%
2	27.79%	26.27%	25.90%	43.97%
3	21.24%	22.70%	21.69%	46.93%
4	22.59%	26.07%	24.49%	46.39%
5	44.32%	43.82%	44.59%	62.11%
6	9.20%	7.59%	6.83%	16.39%
7	25.20%	25.67%	25.16%	46.55%
8	44.85%	46.71%	47.94%	67.01%
9	20.45%	19.63%	23.04%	37.98%
10	21.44%	21.41%	21.67%	40.76%
11	14.32%	14.00%	14.69%	26.99%
12	37.40%	39.23%	40.09%	58.42%
13	9.41%	9.39%	8.63%	22.35%
14	17.39%	19.83%	20.45%	42.07%
15	15.43%	18.58%	17.03%	39.71%
16	23.06%	23.97%	22.02%	42.04%
17	7.97%	7.46%	6.48%	17.19%
18	29.24%	30.64%	27.75%	52.29%
19	6.33%	5.35%	5.96%	13.17%
20	8.24%	7.72%	7.26%	19.28%
21	42.34%	46.36%	47.02%	67.05%
22	28.15%	30.94%	30.47%	49.21%
23	51.83%	54.51%	55.45%	67.62%
24	38.11%	40.57%	41.15%	61.09%
25	40.73%	39.13%	44.24%	61.46%
26	14.79%	14.55%	15.45%	33.98%
27	53.71%	53.62%	55.31%	64.68%
28	16.52%	17.38%	17.91%	35.03%
29	37.49%	39.79%	36.14%	54.87%
30	28.74%	27.61%	29.20%	42.58%
31	49.56%	55.84%	51.05%	71.78%
32	49.12%	51.00%	52.15%	63.69%
33	44.18%	51.36%	48.93%	70.43%
34	15.83%	13.66%	13.36%	25.01%
35	15.57%	14.35%	15.71%	34.99%
36	9.25%	8.71%	9.09%	22.07%
37	14.34%	13.75%	11.93%	33.87%
38	48.30%	53.04%	48.96%	69.99%
39	35.45%	37.79%	39.09%	60.68%
40	7.74%	6.70%	7.05%	16.62%
41	8.05%	7.33%	7.90%	18.78%
42	42.23%	52.37%	51.97%	75.29%
43	49.96%	53.43%	54.72%	74.80%

44	31.78%	32.65%	34.46%	52.70%
45	24.16%	25.48%	26.58%	46.83%
46	24.71%	26.87%	27.29%	34.13%
47	25.84%	30.28%	29.58%	34.75%
48	36.13%	38.39%	39.69%	56.00%
49	12.82%	10.93%	11.11%	21.87%
50	21.15%	21.19%	19.29%	35.24%
51	20.54%	21.96%	22.31%	39.35%
52	12.96%	12.79%	12.40%	35.99%
53	20.79%	22.57%	22.12%	41.44%
54	15.74%	16.06%	14.42%	29.30%
55	24.12%	22.88%	22.05%	44.43%
56	10.30%	10.02%	9.68%	15.19%
57	60.75%	64.05%	63.79%	77.15%
58	42.66%	44.15%	49.46%	64.30%
59	22.22%	22.17%	25.80%	46.13%
60	40.06%	42.63%	45.44%	66.52%
61	11.47%	9.72%	12.35%	21.58%
62	13.95%	13.00%	13.92%	29.10%
63	19.18%	19.73%	20.34%	37.93%
64	18.52%	20.22%	20.57%	41.07%
65	19.63%	20.32%	20.53%	37.63%
66	24.86%	26.65%	27.75%	40.28%
67	8.42%	8.10%	9.12%	21.64%
68	11.70%	11.69%	11.59%	34.66%
69	12.74%	12.87%	13.69%	32.85%
70	6.30%	6.51%	6.95%	19.59%
71	36.56%	40.00%	38.74%	60.33%
72	47.51%	53.15%	51.29%	72.20%
73	7.20%	7.02%	7.49%	20.80%
74	13.44%	13.16%	14.58%	32.27%
75	14.47%	14.35%	16.33%	34.22%
76	20.05%	20.28%	22.04%	44.22%
77	8.72%	9.15%	9.24%	27.49%
78	6.51%	6.45%	6.51%	20.19%
79	24.26%	24.87%	24.31%	44.90%
80	8.41%	8.80%	9.49%	26.55%
81	9.14%	9.44%	9.28%	23.29%
82	14.11%	14.18%	17.28%	34.84%
83	16.81%	17.55%	20.84%	38.47%
84	13.85%	14.38%	14.61%	32.76%
85	3.50%	1.78%	1.90%	5.31%
86	6.27%	6.62%	6.65%	14.07%
87	4.87%	5.16%	5.11%	13.57%
88	38.42%	42.30%	39.61%	63.88%
89	8.61%	9.00%	8.85%	24.30%
90	3.43%	3.41%	3.35%	7.54%

91	5.07%	5.29%	4.96%	13.42%
92	30.16%	31.39%	34.04%	55.70%
93	1.59%	1.22%	1.90%	2.55%
94	5.74%	4.67%	4.67%	12.66%
95	9.85%	9.52%	9.32%	27.11%
96	8.42%	7.96%	9.20%	21.73%
97	5.67%	5.58%	5.64%	14.30%
98	7.74%	7.23%	7.86%	20.61%
99	49.54%	53.92%	56.78%	73.47%
100	32.11%	33.79%	37.28%	55.04%
101	50.82%	52.85%	54.19%	73.86%
102	43.89%	48.59%	44.54%	66.31%
103	7.73%	6.85%	8.95%	18.87%
104	6.22%	4.98%	5.44%	13.31%
105	8.25%	7.20%	8.89%	20.48%
106	38.00%	42.89%	47.11%	67.20%
107	49.39%	51.03%	56.03%	74.33%
108	14.43%	14.36%	16.51%	32.16%
109	18.88%	18.56%	20.52%	39.93%
110	15.30%	16.34%	16.94%	34.17%
111	16.32%	17.67%	18.25%	33.31%
112	10.23%	9.04%	9.02%	17.76%
113	3.20%	3.01%	3.08%	8.35%
114	12.57%	12.06%	11.07%	19.44%
115	2.71%	2.02%	2.13%	3.89%
116	3.03%	2.45%	3.37%	5.08%
117	3.62%	3.35%	3.49%	9.67%
118	1.12%	0.83%	0.92%	1.42%
119	1.80%	1.36%	1.74%	2.29%
120	1.12%	0.70%	0.75%	1.48%

EXHIBIT F

ENACTED SENATE PLAN RACIAL DATA

Enacted 2017 Senate Plan
BVAP and Black Registration Data

Dist	BVAP	BVR 2010	BVR 2017	BDVR 2010
1	28.44%	26.91%	26.23%	44.96%
2	15.83%	15.88%	15.12%	34.57%
3	44.36%	45.28%	45.52%	60.51%
4	47.46%	49.46%	50.52%	65.53%
5	32.94%	33.42%	35.11%	53.82%
6	16.88%	19.90%	19.17%	41.27%
7	33.93%	36.14%	36.74%	58.07%
8	18.42%	18.59%	16.42%	36.91%
9	12.33%	11.88%	11.34%	26.80%
10	24.06%	27.32%	26.72%	47.83%
11	25.43%	25.20%	26.48%	49.01%
12	20.09%	21.55%	21.55%	39.64%
13	26.37%	29.41%	29.42%	36.05%
14	38.85%	41.15%	40.02%	62.82%
15	26.81%	28.55%	27.59%	46.25%
16	11.74%	10.32%	10.92%	22.90%
17	11.42%	10.82%	10.33%	27.21%
18	15.60%	14.23%	14.68%	32.35%
19	25.99%	28.04%	29.27%	48.67%
20	40.35%	43.05%	39.54%	59.33%
21	47.51%	51.30%	51.65%	72.67%
22	30.80%	30.25%	30.88%	46.90%
23	12.81%	12.84%	11.81%	21.75%
24	18.68%	19.33%	20.86%	39.22%
25	25.89%	26.07%	25.66%	46.28%
26	16.66%	18.29%	18.55%	43.25%
27	12.71%	11.66%	13.43%	26.80%
28	50.52%	53.14%	56.16%	70.82%
29	10.24%	10.78%	10.94%	27.17%
30	15.22%	15.87%	15.45%	32.04%
31	8.86%	8.46%	9.34%	23.69%
32	39.18%	43.69%	42.52%	65.05%
33	14.25%	14.35%	15.46%	33.96%
34	10.12%	10.26%	10.28%	27.69%
35	12.31%	12.40%	12.86%	33.02%
36	14.10%	14.03%	16.88%	34.17%
37	42.73%	47.12%	43.25%	67.57%
38	48.46%	50.65%	56.13%	72.72%
39	6.62%	5.69%	6.88%	15.85%
40	38.88%	42.40%	45.89%	63.55%
41	14.25%	13.31%	16.08%	33.13%
42	8.03%	7.71%	8.08%	20.72%
43	14.75%	15.00%	16.78%	33.19%

44	13.30%	13.74%	13.97%	29.33%
45	2.64%	2.22%	2.54%	5.14%
46	5.82%	5.10%	5.13%	12.72%
47	5.33%	4.77%	4.90%	10.20%
48	3.50%	3.15%	3.40%	8.32%
49	6.78%	6.30%	6.00%	11.39%
50	1.38%	0.99%	1.16%	1.90%

Exhibit 8

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA
NO. 1:15-cv-00399**

SANDRA LITTLE COVINGTON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, et al.,

Defendants.

**DECLARATION OF
SENATOR ROBERT
BENJAMIN CLARK III**

1. My name is Robert Benjamin Clark, III. I was born in Fort Bragg, North Carolina on December 1, 1959 and spent most of my youth growing up in Fayetteville, North Carolina. While growing up I attended the public schools in Cumberland County and graduated from 71st Senior High School in 1977.

2. In 1981 I graduated with honors from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University with a B. S. degree in Industrial Technology and received a commission as an officer in the United States Air Force. At the time I was also designated as a distinguished graduate from the University's Air Force ROTC program.

3. I served a 20 year career in the Air Force (1981-2001) during which time I earned an MBA from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville (1986). Over the course of my Air Force Career I served in several assignments throughout the United States and Europe. Some of my duty titles include Operations Branch Chief – Defense Intelligence Agency; Assistant Professor of Aerospace Studies (AFROTC), North Carolina A&T State University; Communications Staff Officer – HQ Allied Air Forces Central Europe, Radio Spectrum Engineer – Air Force Frequency Management Agency; Satellite Communications Branch Chief – HQ European Communications Division; Systems Engineer – 1842nd Electronics Engineering Group; and Systems Manager – Detachment 12, 1945th Communications Group.

4. I returned permanently to North Carolina in 2002 to my current residence in Hoke County. I am currently employed by a defense contractor to serve as a program operations manager in support of the XVIII Airborne Corps Mission Training Complex (MTC) at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. I have worked at the MTC in various capacities since 2003.

5. In 2012, 2014 and 2016 I was elected to the North Carolina Senate from SD 21. During the 2017 session of the General Assembly I served on, and attended most of the meetings of, the Senate Redistricting Committee and the Joint House and Senate Redistricting Committee, as well as all meetings of the full Senate at which redistricting was considered.

6. By virtue of that experience, and my study of demographic, geographic and political data related to redistricting, I am knowledgeable about the 2017 Senate redistricting process and maps. Likewise, in the course of campaigning for office and serving my constituents I have acquired detailed knowledge about the communities in Hoke and Cumberland and the people who live there.

7. At the August 10, 2017 meeting of the Redistricting Committee I submitted proposed criteria for redrawing the 2011 Senate and House maps. Among the criteria I proposed were that the BVAP in the 28 districts invalidated by this Court should not exceed the BVAP for those districts under the 2003 maps and that political data should not be used to maintain a partisan advantage unrelated to electoral strength. A complete copy of the criteria I proposed is attached as Exhibit 1. My proposed criteria were rejected on a party line vote.

8. SD 21 is one of two districts located within a two county cluster containing Hoke and Cumberland counties. SD 21 includes all of Hoke County and part of Cumberland County. The other district in the cluster, SD 19, is located entirely within Cumberland County.

9. The 2011 versions of SD 19 and 21 were drawn by Thomas Hofeller. His 2011 version of SD 21 packed Black citizens within Cumberland into an oddly shaped district in order to achieve their stated criterion of meeting a pre-determined racial proportionality goal for the number of districts in the state with a majority black voting age population. Packing black voters into SD 21 also had the partisan effect of creating a disproportionately white adjoining district, SD 19, which would elect a Republican candidate. At the 2012, 2014 and 2016 elections a Republican candidate won election from SD 19.

10. The 2017 versions of SD 19 and 21 were also drawn by Mr. Hofeller and he repeated the same pattern as the 2011 versions of SD 19 and 21 (with a little trimming around the edges – see figure 1 below).

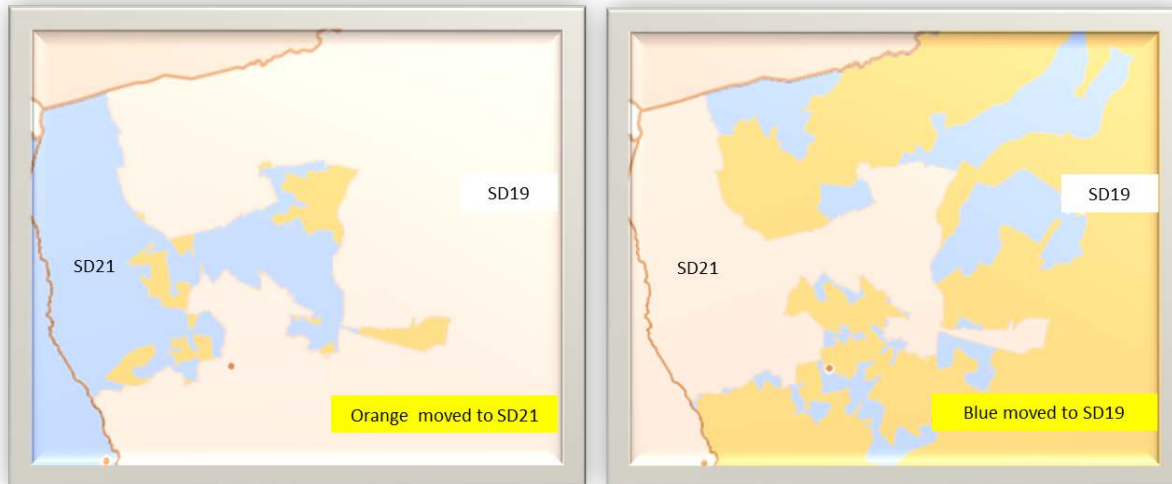


Figure 1. SD21 and SD19 District Area Exchange

Left: Areas in orange were part of SD19 in the 2011 Senate Plan and were moved to SD21 in the 2017 Senate Plan. Areas in blue were part SD21 in the 2011 Senate Plan and remain so in the 2017 Plan.

Right: Areas in blue were part of SD21 in the 2011 Senate Plan and were moved to SD19 in the 2017 Senate Plan. Areas in orange were part of SD19 in the 2011 Senate Plan and remain so in the 2017 Plan.

11. In the 2011 Senate Plan, Black citizens in Cumberland County were packed into an oddly shaped SD 21 in order to facilitate the election of a Republican candidate in SD 19. In the 2017 Senate Plan, black citizens are still packed. Mr. Hofeller's 2017 versions of SD19 and 21 have the following characteristics:

- (a) The BVAP in the Cumberland county part of SD 21 exceeds 50% (51.46%). The BVAP in SD 19 is only 25.99%.
- (b) Almost twice as many Black voting age citizens were assigned to SD 21 (63,976) as were assigned to SD 19 (34,306).
- (c) Of the 36 VTDs that wholly or predominantly contain Fayetteville municipal populations, 15 were assigned to SD 19 and 21 were assigned to SD21. Of those 21 VTDs assigned to SD 21, more than half of them had BVAPs greater than 50% and only 4 had BVAPs less than 40%. Conversely, of the 15 assigned to SD 19, none had a BVAP greater than 50% and only

1 had a BVAP greater than 40% while the remaining 14 had BVAPs less than 40%.

- (d) The graphic in Figure 2 below provides for analysis of the overall effect of distribution of VTDs of varying BVAP values between SD 21 and SD 19 BVAP in the 2017 enacted map. The SD 21 BVAP is 47.51% and is 10 points higher than the cluster BVAP of 36.86%. Likewise, there is a 20 point difference between the SD 21 and SD 19 BVAP values. This is a clear indication of continued packing of African American voters into SD 21 with the effect of creating a partisan advantage in favor of Republicans in SD 19.

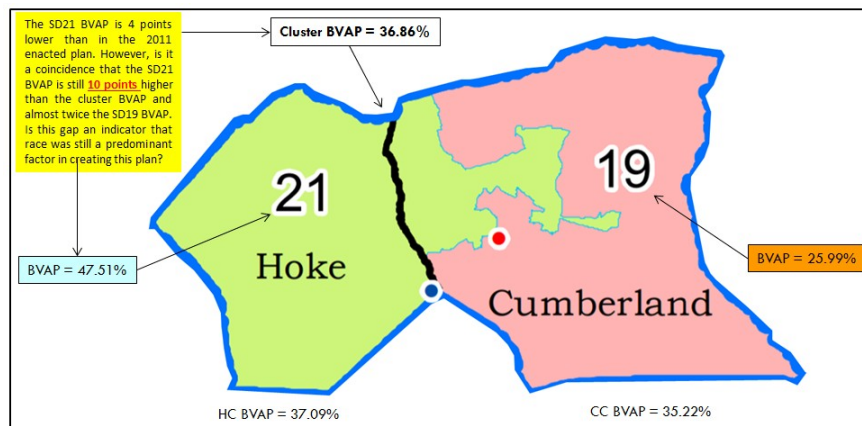


Figure 2: (SD21& SD19 in 2017 Enacted Plan – Republican Proposed Remedy for Racial Gerrymander)

- (e) Figure 2 above depicts a notched intersection between SD 21 and SD 19 on their southern boundary, which begs the question, “why the notch.” To discuss the possibilities I would like to focus your attention to the detail cutout in Figure 3 below.

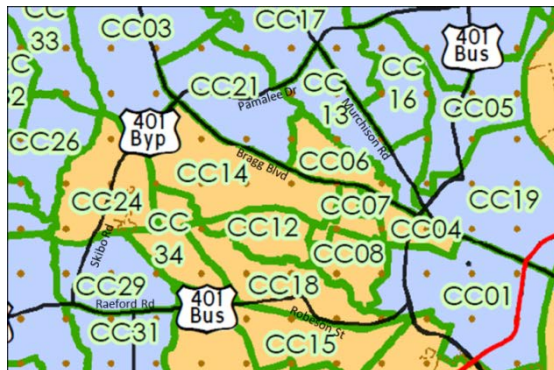


Figure 3: Notch Detail

The image reveals that the entry point into the notch's southern boundary via SD 19 is CC15. It is interesting to note that none of the SD 19 VTDs within this notch (VTDs: CC15, CC18, CC34, CC24, CC12, CC08, CC04, CC07, CC06 and CC14) have a BVAP higher than 25%. In sharp contrast, most of the VTD/s that border this notch (VTDs: CC29, CC26, CC03, CC21, CC13, CC19, CC01) have BVAPs in excess of 50%.

Three glaring and inexplicable choices (unless race is the predominant factor) within Section C are the exclusion of CC04, CC06, and CC24 from SD 21. The entire downtown area of Fayetteville except the most central portion, CC04, has been assigned to SD 21. What is the rationale for its surgical removal from the enclosing VTDs (CC13, CC19, and CC01) and its inclusion into SD 19? Likewise, what is the rationale for the surgical removal of CC06 from the triangle formed by Pamalee Drive, Bragg Boulevard and Murchison Road? Is there a sound rationale for not including CC24 in SD 21 given that all other VTDs along the 401 Bypass are assigned to SD 21?

The answer to each of these questions is no. Sorting voters on the basis of race is the only possible explanation for the decisions about which VTDs are included in the district and which are excluded. In this particular case the lines are drawn up into the notch to eliminate the need to balance the SD 19 populations with more logical VTD choices along the SD 19/SD 21 boundary (such as AH49 and G5) that have much larger BVAP populations.

12. The partisan impact of maintaining the BVAP in the Cumberland part of SD 21 above 50% is illustrated by an examination of the elections data Mr. Hofeller used to draw enacted SD 19 and 21. According to that data at the 2016 elections for President, US Senator, Governor, Lt. Governor and Attorney General the Republican candidate in enacted SD 19 received, respectively, 51.71%, 52.49%, 52.63%, 52.31% and 51.51% of the vote and the Democratic candidate in enacted SD 21 would have received, respectively, 67.07%, 66.21%, 66.14%, 66.83% and 70.04% of the vote.

13. The fact that Black voters are still packed in SD 21 on the basis of their race is also demonstrated by the General Assembly's disposition of two amendments to SD 19 and 21 in the enacted 2017 Senate map. One of these proposed amendments was adopted; the other was not.

14. On August 24, 2017, the Redistricting Committee amended the original Committee version of SD 19 and 21 to move my new residence within SD 21. This amendment was adopted and included in the enacted map. These changes made both SD 19 and 21 even more irregular and left the BVAP in SD 21 in Cumberland essentially unchanged. (.20 % reduction from 51.66% to 51.46%).

15. On August 28, 2017, I presented an amendment to the line between SD 19 and 21 to reduce the BVAP in SD 21 in Cumberland from 51.66% to 45.36%, to make both districts more compact and to better reflect the Fayetteville corporate limits. A map of my proposed amendment which would have reduced the BVAP below 50% and would have made the district more compact is set out in Figure 4 below.

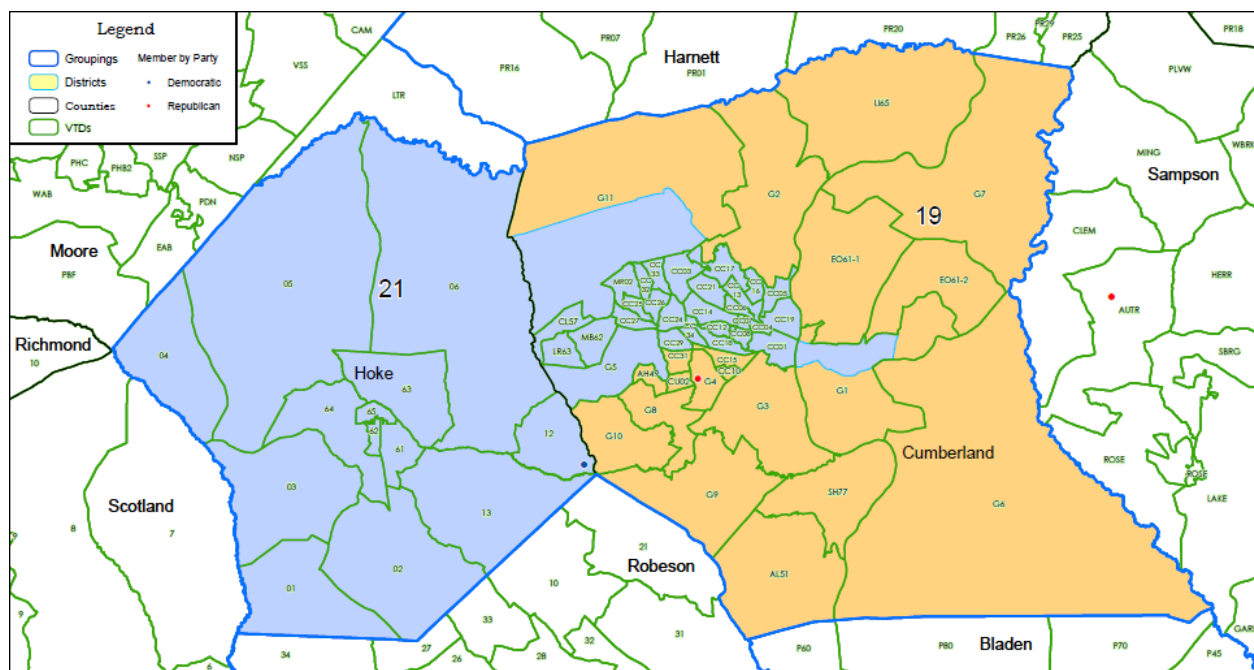


Figure 4: Map of Proposed Amendment for SD21/SD19 Senate Districts

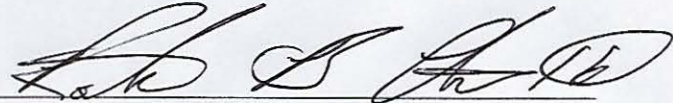
16. The amendment that preserved the greater than 50% BVAP in Cumberland was accepted, but the amendment that made the district more in line with traditional redistricting principles while also decreasing the BVAP below 50% was defeated.

17. During the debate on my amendment on August 28, the Republican Majority Leader argued against my amendment on the pretextual grounds that area of Fort Bragg containing the post population should be included entirely with SD 19

because most of Fort Bragg, like SD 19, is located in Cumberland County. It is true that SD 19 is located entirely in Cumberland County. It is not true that most of Fort Bragg is in Cumberland County. In fact 139.3 square miles of Fort Bragg are located in Hoke County and only 68 square miles are in Cumberland County.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and accurate.

Executed on September 13, 2017.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. B. Clark, III", written over a horizontal line.

Robert Benjamin Clark, III



*North Carolina General Assembly
Senate Chamber
State Legislative Building
Raleigh, NC 27601-2808*

SENATOR BEN CLARK
21ST DISTRICT

OFFICE: (919) 733-9349
BEN.CLARK@NCLEG.NET

August 10, 2017

Recommended Criteria for Construction of NC Legislative Districts

1. **Equal Population:** The 2010 federal decennial census data shall be used as the basis of population for the establishment of districts in the plan. Within the limits of the law, efforts shall be made to account for population growth.
2. **Contiguity:** Legislative districts shall be comprised of contiguous territory which may consist of both landmass and bodies of water. To the extent practicable, areas within a legislative district shall be easily accessible for commerce, from other areas of the same district, without requiring members to transit through an adjacent legislative district to gain such access.
3. **Total Black Voting Age Population:** None of the nine Senate districts and 19 House districts deemed as unconstitutional by the US Supreme Court in the Covington case shall have a total black voting age population higher than that which existed in those enacted NC legislative districts that were in effect in 2010.
4. **Voting Districts:** Voting districts ("VTDs") should be split only when necessary to comply with the zero deviation population requirements set forth above in order to ensure the integrity of political data.
5. **Partisan Symmetry:** Partisan symmetry posits that a district plan should treat the major parties symmetrically in terms of the conversion of votes to seats. The Committee shall make reasonable efforts to achieve this ideal by constructing plans that provide for the equally efficient conversion of partisan proxy votes from selected statewide elections, in such a way, as to prospectively achieve a distribution of seats commensurate with the partisan makeup of the state.





North Carolina General Assembly
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21ST DISTRICT

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6. **Efficiency Gap:** The efficiency gap of plans considered for enactment shall not exceed five percent. The efficiency gap shall be determined by using the simplified efficiency gap calculation. Such calculations shall use the 2016 US President and US Senate election results as proxy votes for assessing prospectively, the likely partisan performance of districts as constructed within the maps being considered for enactment.
7. **Compactness:** The Committee shall make reasonable efforts to construct districts in the Senate and House district plan that improve the compactness of the current districts and keep more counties and VTDs whole as compared with the current enacted plan.
8. **Whole-County Provision:** Pursuant to complying with the whole-county provision as mandated by the North Carolina Constitution, to the greatest extent practical, the Committee shall not divide counties in creating legislative districts except wherein compliance with the whole-county provision has been preempted or otherwise superseded by federal law or court rulings. When division of counties is required, reasonable efforts shall be made not to divide a county into more than two districts.
9. **Partisan Advantage:** Maintaining or establishing a partisan advantage for any party shall NOT be a criterion for the construction or approval of House and Senate district plans.
10. **Voter Preference Assignment:** Voters may be assigned to redistricts based on the policy preferences expressed by the votes they have cast in past elections in order to produce partisan symmetry in the House and Senate, but voters may not be assigned to redistricts to produce a partisan political advantage unrelated to the statewide electoral strength of the political parties.





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11. **Incumbency:** Incumbency may not be considered in redrawing districts for the purpose of maintaining, in whole or in part, the partisan advantage gained by the illegal 2011 House and Senate plans.
12. **Race:** Race shall not be the predominant factor used to re draw the boundary of any House or Senate district unless that decision is supported by legislative findings based on substantial evidence that the district's boundaries are necessary to avoid a violation of the Voting Rights Act, properly interpreted.
13. **Interactive District Maps:** Currently citizens can access the "Who Represents Me" tool on NCGA website and easily determine the legislative district they reside in and who represents them. A similar tool shall be made available that will allow citizens to easily determine which legislative district they would reside in under a proposed legislative map.
14. **Plan Completion Date:** The North Carolina General Assembly shall complete and submit new House and Senate district plans to the United States District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina no later than August 21, 2017.

Respectfully,

Senator Robert B. Clark, III



Exhibit 9

Plan: STC-2
Plan Type:

Administrator
User:

Districts & Their Incumbents

Monday, August 28, 2017

7:28 PM

District	Name	Party	Previous District
1			
2	Sanderson	Republican	2
3	Smith-Ingram	Democratic	3
3	Cook	Republican	1
4	Horner	Republican	11
5	D.Davis	Democratic	5
6	Brown	Republican	6
7	Pate	Republican	7
8	Rabon	Republican	8
9	Lee	Republican	9
10	B.Jackson	Republican	10
11	Bryant	Democratic	4
12	Rabin	Republican	12
13	Britt	Republican	13
14	Blue	Democratic	14
15	Chaudhuri	Democratic	16
16			
17	Barringer	Republican	17
18	Alexander	Republican	15
18	Barefoot	Republican	18
19	Meredith	Republican	19
20	McKissick	Democratic	20
21	Clark	Democratic	21
22	Woodard	Democratic	22
23	Foushee	Democratic	23
24	Gunn	Republican	24

District	Name	Party	Previous District
25	McInnis	Republican	25
26	Tillman	Republican	29
27	Wade	Republican	27
28	Robinson	Democratic	28
29	Dunn	Republican	33
30	Berger	Republican	26
31	Barrett	Republican	34
31	Krawiec	Republican	31
32	Lowe	Democratic	32
33			
34			
35	Tucker	Republican	35
36	Newton	Republican	36
37	J.Jackson	Democratic	37
38	Ford	Democratic	38
39	Bishop	Republican	39
40	Waddell	Democratic	40
41	Tarte	Republican	41
42	Wells	Republican	42
43	Harrington	Republican	43
44	Curtis	Republican	44
45	Ballard	Republican	45
45	Randleman	Republican	30
46	Daniel	Republican	46
47	Hise	Republican	47
48	Edwards	Republican	48
49	Van Duyn	Democratic	49
50	J.Davis	Republican	50

Number of Incumbents in District with more than one Incumbent:

8



Number of Districts with No Incumbent:

4



Number of Districts with Incumbents of more than one party:

1



Number of Districts with Paired Democrats:

0

District	Name	Party	Previous District
Number of Districts with Paired Republicans:		3	<input type="text"/>

Plan Name: STC-2
Plan Type:
Date: 08/28/2017
Time: 07:31:45PM
Administrator:

Measures of Compactness

08/28/2017

Sum	N/A
Min	0.11
Max	0.61
Mean	0.34
Std. Dev.	0.13

DISTRICT	Polsby-Popper
1	0.46
2	0.42
3	0.15
4	0.31
5	0.44
6	0.55
7	0.35
8	0.18
9	0.27
10	0.29
11	0.24
12	0.40
13	0.33
14	0.27
15	0.11
16	0.48
17	0.34
18	0.28
19	0.20
20	0.49
21	0.25
22	0.54
23	0.37
24	0.61
25	0.28
26	0.55
27	0.15
28	0.17
29	0.27
30	0.40
31	0.14
32	0.23
33	0.30
34	0.34
35	0.56
36	0.39
37	0.27
38	0.42
39	0.24
40	0.36

Plan Name:	STC-2	Administrator:	
Plan Type:		User:	

DISTRICT	Polsby- Popper
41	0.13
42	0.48
43	0.50
44	0.32
45	0.41
46	0.45
47	0.24
48	0.32
49	0.30
50	0.46

Plan Name: STC-2
Plan Type:
Date: 08/28/2017
Time: 07:31:09PM
Administrator:

Measures of Compactness

08/28/2017

Sum	N/A
Min	0.19
Max	0.62
Mean	0.42
Std. Dev.	0.09

DISTRICT	Reock
----------	-------

1	0.46
2	0.48
3	0.23
4	0.45
5	0.62
6	0.52
7	0.46
8	0.41
9	0.24
10	0.48
11	0.22
12	0.46
13	0.41
14	0.41
15	0.38
16	0.50
17	0.39
18	0.41
19	0.45
20	0.44
21	0.42
22	0.58
23	0.39
24	0.58
25	0.46
26	0.56
27	0.43
28	0.40
29	0.27
30	0.27
31	0.32
32	0.58
33	0.32
34	0.33
35	0.49
36	0.44
37	0.42
38	0.42
39	0.33
40	0.47

Plan Name:	STC-2	Administrator:	
Plan Type:		User:	

DISTRICT	Reock
41	0.19
42	0.45
43	0.43
44	0.38
45	0.44
46	0.54
47	0.42
48	0.40
49	0.39
50	0.42

Exhibit 10

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA
NO. 1:15-cv-00399**

SANDRA LITTLE COVINGTON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, et al.,

Defendants.

**DECLARATION OF
DR. GREGORY HERSCHLAG**

1. My name is Gregory Herschlag. I received a Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2013. I am currently a Visiting Assistant Professor in Mathematics and Biomedical Engineering at Duke University.

2. My curriculum vitae is attached as Exhibit 1.

3. Counsel for Plaintiffs requested that I provide a report with my initial analysis of the 2017 NC House and Senate districts in Wake, Mecklenburg, Cumberland and Guilford Counties. This report is part of an ongoing research program that analyzes political districts by comparing the partisan outcome of elections in a given district map to the partisan outcome of simulated elections using an ensemble of maps. The ensemble is generated with established mathematical and methodological principles [1,2]. The counsel specifically requested that I provide an analysis of the racial makeup of these districts in addition to their partisan composition.

4. I will be compensated for my work at the rate of \$200 per hour. My colleague, Dr. Jonathan Mattingly, Chair of the Math Department at Duke has worked with me on this project. Professor Mattingly has reported on corresponding work in *Common Cause v Rucho* and *Whitford v Gill*. All of these reports summarize aspects of the larger, ongoing, research program mentioned above.

5. My work on the 2017 NC districts began soon after the districts were enacted on August 31, 2017. In the two-week period since then, I have completed an initial analysis of Senate districts in Wake, Mecklenburg and Cumberland Counties but have not had time to undertake any analysis of the Senate districts in Guilford or any analysis of House districts.

6. The traditional redistricting criteria I use to generate simulated districts are equal population (plus or minus 5%), compactness (as measured by the Polsby-Popper test), preservation of precincts, and contiguity. I use 2010 census data to determine equal population for, and racial composition of, simulated districts. To determine the partisan performance of the simulated and enacted districts, I use the NC Senate election results in 2012 and 2014, corrected for unopposed races. 2016 Senate and 2016 US House of Representative election results are not used because these results were reported without partisan information on the NC State Board of Elections website [3], and I have not had time to process these files. To ensure the robustness of the partisan results, I also consider all Presidential, US Senate, and NC Governor election results occurring in 2012, 2014, and 2016, along with US House of Representatives election results occurring in 2012 and 2014.

7. To date we have generated an ensemble of 7,606 simulated district plans in Wake, 6,044 district plans in Mecklenburg, and 78,485 district plans in Cumberland. The methods used to produce this ensemble have been shown to accurately sample the distribution on possible redistricting plans respecting the above redistricting criteria [1,2].

8. The racial composition of the 2017 districts in Cumberland County is highly atypical. One of the two enacted 2017 districts in Cumberland contains a significantly higher percentage of the population that is African American (46.5%) than any district in the 78,485 simulated districting plans for the county (see Figure 1; right). In Cumberland, the average percentage of the population that is African American over all simulated districts is 36.3%.

9. In Mecklenburg County, the racial composition of the 2017 districts is also highly atypical. The 2017 enacted districts and the 6,044 simulated districts each contain 5 districts in Mecklenburg. The 5 districts are ordered from least to most in terms of the percentage of the population that is African American in the 2017 enacted districts and in each district map of the ensemble. I find that the middle ordered district of the 2017 enacted plan has a significantly higher minority population than is expected; only 3 of the 6,044 simulated districting plans have a higher percentage of African Americans. In the 2017 enacted plan, the population of the middle ordered district is 39.6% African American – higher than the 30.2% average of the simulated plans (see Figure 1; middle).

10. In contrast, the 2017 enacted Senate districts in Wake County are within the expected racial composition range (see Figure 1; left)

11. For a presentation of racial statistics see Figure 1 below.

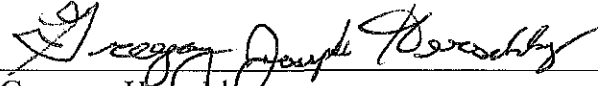
12. To compare the partisan composition of the 2017 Senate districts with the ensemble, we simulate elections in all three counties by using the actual votes cast in the

racers for the NC Senate, President, US Senate, US House of Representatives, and NC Governor in elections between 2012 and 2016; as described above, all elections but the 2016 NC Senate and 2016 US House elections are omitted. I plot histograms of elected Democrats for the ensemble in each simulated election with respect to the overall fraction of the Democratic vote (see Figure 2). I compare the histograms results to the simulated elections in the 2017 enacted Senate districts (see Figure 2). Only the votes cast in the 2012 NC Governor election produce an expected partisan composition for the 2017 enacted districts when compared with the ensemble. In using the votes cast in the 2012 and 2016 Presidential elections, the 2014 and 2016 US Senate elections, the 2012 and 2014 US House of Representatives elections, and the 2016 Governor election, the partisan compositions based on the 2017 districts occur in less than 0.1% of the ensemble. In the 2012 and 2014 NC Senate simulated elections, the partisan outcomes based on the 2017 districts occur in 7.14% and 3.50% of the ensemble, respectively. With the exception of the simulated election based on the 2012 race for the NC Governor, the number of Democrats elected with the enacted 2017 maps is consistently smaller than median number of Democrats elected in the ensemble by 1 to 3 seats. In nearly every examined simulated election, the partisan outcome is both unlikely and favors the Republican party.

13. For a presentation of the partisan composition of the three combined county districts, see Figure 2.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and accurate.

Executed on September 14, 2017.


Gregory Herschlag

Figures

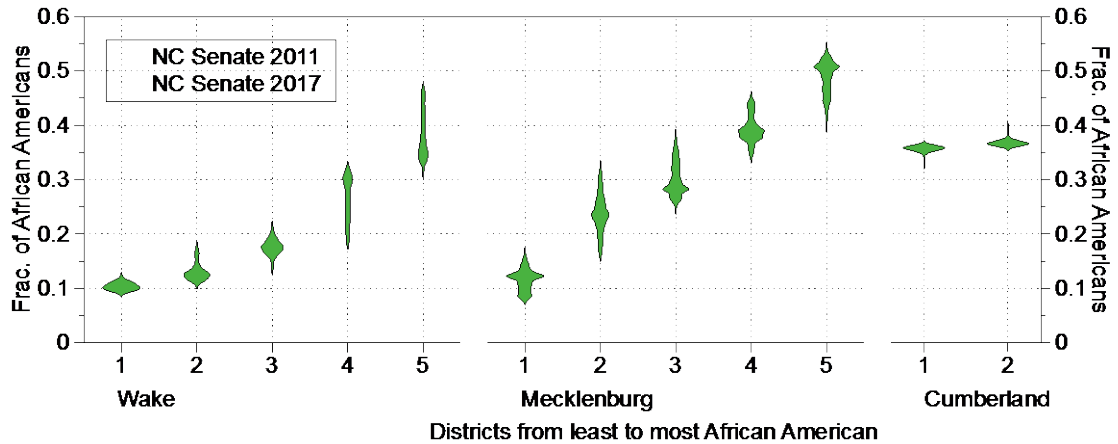


Figure 1. Districts in each county are ordered from least to most percentage of the population that is African American. Marginal distributions of the ensemble are presented with a standard violin plot (green) – thicker horizontal regions are more likely to occur in the ensemble. The 2011 and 2017 NC Senate districts are also ordered from least to most percentage of the population that is African American and compared with the marginal distributions. In Cumberland, not a single generated districting plan packs as many African Americans into a single district as the 2011 and 2017 NC Senate districts. In Mecklenburg, African Americans are over represented in the district with the third highest percentage of African Americans in the 2017 NC Senate districts.

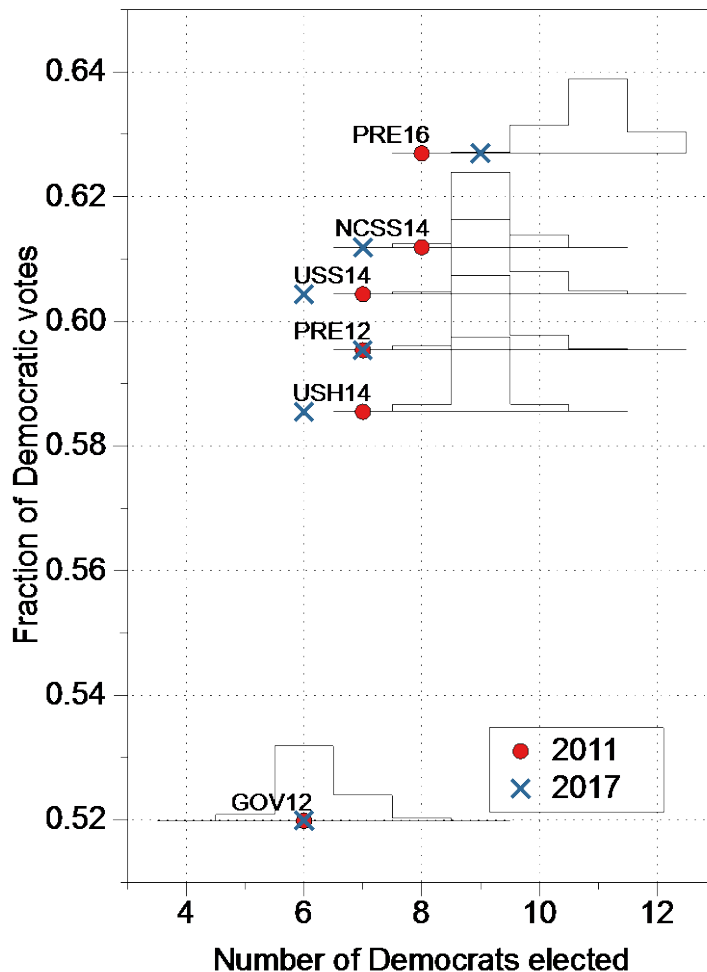


Figure 2. I present histograms of the simulated election results over the ensemble of districting plans and plot them with respect to the fraction of the vote that went to Democrats. I compare the histograms with simulated elections using the 2011 and 2017 enacted Senate districts. I present simulated elections based on the 2016 Presidential (PRE16), 2014 NC State Senate (NCSS14), 2014 US Senate (USS14), 2012 Presidential (PRE12), 2014 US House of Representatives (USH14) and 2012 NC Governor (GOV12) elections. Other reported elections are omitted for clarity but provide qualitatively identical results.

References

1. S. Bangia, C. V. Graves, G. Herschlag, H.S. Kang, J. Luo, J. Mattingly, and R. Ravier. "Redistricting: Drawing the Line." <https://arxiv.org/abs/1704.03360>
2. G. Herschlag, R. Ravier, J. Mattingly. "Evaluating Partisan Gerrymandering in Wisconsin." <https://arxiv.org/abs/1709.01596>
3. <http://dl.ncsbe.gov/index.html>. Last visited 8/12.

Gregory Herschlag - Curriculum Vitae

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Education

- Philosophical Doctorate. September 2007 to August 2013. Graduate student in Applied Mathematics at *University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*, Chapel Hill, NC. Thesis supervisor: Prof. Sorin Mitran. Thesis subject: multiple scale algorithm design for advancing fronts.
- Certificate program. January 2008 to August 2013. Certificate program in Bioinformatics and Computational Biology *University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*, Chapel Hill, NC.
- Bachelors of Science. October 2003 to June 2007. Mathematics major with honors at *University of Chicago*, Chicago, IL, USA.
- High School degree. September 1999 to June 2003. *Taylor Allderdice High School*, Pittsburgh, PA, USA.

Research Interests

- Fluid dynamics
- High performance computing with GPUs
- Gerrymandering and redistricting

Employment

- 2016-present. Visiting Assistant Professor, mathematics and biomedical engineering departments, *Duke University*.
- 2013-2016. Visiting Assistant Professor, mathematics department, *Duke University*.
- 2007-2013. Research/teaching assistant at the mathematics department at the *University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*.

Reports

- G. Herschlag, R. Ravier, J. Mattingly. "Evaluating Partisan Gerrymandering in Wisconsin." Available at: <https://arxiv.org/abs/1709.01596>
- S. Bangia, C. V. Graves, G. Herschlag, H.S. Kang, J. Luo, J. Mattingly, and R. Ravier. "Redistricting: Drawing the Line." Available at: <https://arxiv.org/abs/1704.03360>

Papers undergoing peer review

- G. Herschlag, H.S. Kang, J. Luo, C. V. Graves, S. Bangia, R. Ravier, and J. Mattingly. "Redistricting: Drawing the Line." (*undergoing peer review in Nature*)

Publications

- Y. Cao, Y. Feng, M.D. Ryser, K. Zhu, G. Herschlag, K. Marusak, S. Zauscher, and L. You. "Programmed assembly of pressure sensors using pattern-forming bacteria." *Nature Biotechnology*, *accepted* (2017)
- G. Herschlag, J.-G. Liu, and A. T. Layton. "Fluid extraction across pumping and permeable walls in the viscous limit." *Physics of Fluids* 28.4 (2016): 041902.
- G. Herschlag, J.-G. Liu, and A. T. Layton. An exact solution for stokes flow in a channel with arbitrarily large wall permeability. *SIAM J. Appl. Math.*, 75:2246-2267, (2015).

Exhibit 1

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G.Herschlag, S. Mitran, and G. Lin. An efficient hierarchy of generalized kinetic equation approximations to the chemical master equation applied to surface catalysis. <i>J. Chem. Phys.</i> 142, 234703 (2015) • G. Herschlag, T. C. Elston, M. G. Forest, G. Garcia, B. Reinhardt, B. Button, R. Tarran and B. Lindley. A mechanochemical model for auto-regulation of lung airway surface layer volume. <i>Journal of Theoretical Biology.</i> 325 (2013) 4251 • G. Herschlag and L. A. Miller. Reynolds number limits for jet propulsion: A numerical study of simplified jellyfish. <i>Journal of Theoretical Biology</i> 285 (2011) 84-95
Teaching Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall 2017. Ordinary and partial differential equations (MATH 353, two sections), mathematics department, <i>Duke University</i>. • Fall 2016. Ordinary and partial differential equations (MATH 353, two sections), mathematics department, <i>Duke University</i>. • Spring 2016. Numerical Analysis (MATH 361S), mathematics department, <i>Duke University</i>. • Fall 2015. Multivariable calculus (MATH 212), mathematics department, <i>Duke University</i>. • Spring 2015. Advanced calculus (MATH 431), mathematics department, <i>Duke University</i>. • Fall 2014. Ordinary and partial differential equations (MATH 353), mathematics department, <i>Duke University</i>. • Fall 2013. Ordinary and partial differential equations (MATH 353), mathematics department, <i>Duke University</i>. • Fall 2011. Mathematical modeling (MATH 119), mathematics department, <i>University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill</i>. • Fall 2009. Calculus 1 (MATH 231), mathematics department, <i>University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill</i>.
Honors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nominated for the 2012 J. Bruton Linker Award for excellence in teaching. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC. 2011 • Inducted to Sigma Xi, 2007.
Computational background	<p><u>Operating systems:</u> Linux, OSX.</p> <p><u>Programming:</u> C, C++, Python, PyCUDA, CUDA, Java, Matlab.</p> <p><u>Scientific software:</u> L^AT_EX, Matlab, Mathematica, DataTank.</p>
Conferences, talks, workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Memory access patterns for Lattice Boltzmann methods on GPUs (Poster at the Duke Research Computing Symposium 2017) • The Lattice Boltzmann Method on Graphics Processing Units. Duke, Grad-Frac 2016 (invited talk) • Optimal pumping strategies for material extraction at low Reynolds number. Mathematical Biology Colloquium 2016, Duke (invited talk) • Transmembrane channel workshop at MBI (Poster on stochastic boundary conditions, 2015) • A consistent hierarchy of generalized kinetic equation approximations to the chemical master equation. Tulane University 2015 (invited talk) • A consistent hierarchy of generalized kinetic equation approximations to the chemical master equation. NCSU 2015 (invited talk)

- Enhanced material extraction with pumping through channels. Society of Mathematical Biology (talk)
- Non-periodic boundary conditions in molecular dynamic simulations. SIAM Dynamical Systems 2015 (invited talk)
- Enhanced material extraction with pumping through channels. University of Utah, Computational Biofluids in Physiology 2015 (poster)
- Material transport through and across channels at low Reynolds number. NCSU, Diff. Eq. Seminar 2015 (invited talk)
- Material transport through and across channels at low Reynolds number. Purdue, CAMS seminar 2015 (invited talk)
- Material transport through and across channels at low Reynolds number. Duke, Grad-Frac 2015 (invited talk)
- Material transport through and across channels at low Reynolds number. Notre Dame, ACMS seminar 2015 (invited talk)
- An exact solution for Stokes flow in a channel with arbitrarily large wall permeability. APS DFD 2014 (talk)
- An efficient hierarchy of generalized kinetic equation approximations to the chemical master equation. SIAM Annual 2014 (talk)
- Flow through permeable channels. Grad-Fac 2014, Duke University (talk)
- Tiling structures to approximate the chemical master equation with applications to surface catalysis. Analysis and applied mathematics seminar 2014, Duke University (talk)
- A mechanochemical model for auto-regulation of hydration on brachial passageways. Mathematical Biology Colloquium 2013, Duke (invited talk)
- Boundary conditions for molecular dynamic simulations. Cha Cha Days 2013 (invited talk)
- A method to approximate the chemical master equation. Computational Science and Engineering, Boston, 2013 (talk)
- Simulation of Solidification by Coupling of Phase Field and Microscopic Computations. ICIAM 2011 (talk)
- Reynolds number limits for jet propulsion. Cha Cha Days 2009 (poster)
- Leaf roll-up and aquaplaning in strong winds and floods. American Physics Society. Division of Fluid Dynamics 2008 (movie)
- Cha Cha Days 2008 (attended)

Mentorship rolls

- Data+ Mentor. Gerrymandering project. Summer 2016
- Mathematical biology REU at Duke. Information content of neural firing patterns. Summer 2015.
- Mathematical biology workshop at Duke. Insect respiration. Summer 2015.
- Mathematical biology REU at Duke. Protein folding. Summer 2014.
- Mathematical biology workshop at Duke. The theory of entropy applied to biological experiments. Summer 2014.

Organizational rolls

- Leading seminars on journal articles in mathematical biology at Duke; about nine per year. Fall 2013-2016
- Organizing and running the mathematical biology colloquium at Duke. Fall 2014
- Director of the mathematical biology workshop at Duke. Summer 2014.

Fellowships

- 2008-2009. Bioinformatics and computational biology fellowship as part of the certificate program at the *University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*.

References

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Exhibit 11

Plan: HBK-25
Plan Type:

Administrator
User:

Districts & Their Incumbents

Monday, August 28, 2017

4:04 PM

District	Name	Party	Previous District
1	Steinburg	Republican	1
2	Yarborough	Republican	2
3	Speciale	Republican	3
4	Dixon	Republican	4
5	Hunter	Democratic	5
6	Boswell	Republican	6
7	B.Richardson	Democratic	7
8			
9	Murphy	Republican	9
10	J.Bell	Republican	10
11	Duane Hall, II	Democratic	11
12	G.Graham	Democratic	12
13	McElraft	Republican	13
14	Cleveland	Republican	14
15	Shepard	Republican	15
16	Millis	Republican	16
17	Iler	Republican	17
18	Butler	Democratic	18
19	Davis	Republican	19
20	Grange	Republican	20
21	L.Bell	Democratic	21
22	Brisson	Democratic	22
23	Willingham	Democratic	23
24	S.Martin	Republican	8
24	Farmer-Butterfield	Democratic	24
25	Collins	Republican	25

District	Name	Party	Previous District
26	White	Republican	26
27	Wray	Democratic	27
28	Strickland	Republican	28
29	Black	Democratic	29
30	Morey	Democratic	30
31	Michaux	Democratic	31
32	Garrison	Democratic	32
33	Gill	Democratic	33
34	G.Martin	Democratic	34
35	Malone	Republican	35
36	Dollar	Republican	36
37	Williams	Republican	37
38	Holley	Democratic	38
39	Jackson	Democratic	39
40	John	Democratic	40
41	Adcock	Democratic	41
42	Lucas	Democratic	42
43	Floyd	Democratic	43
44	W.Richardson	Democratic	44
45	Szoka	Republican	45
46	Brenden Jones	Republican	46
47	C.Graham	Democratic	47
48	Pierce	Democratic	48
49	Ball	Democrat	49
50	Meyer	Democratic	50
51	Sauls	Republican	51
52	Boles	Republican	52
53	Lewis	Republican	53
54	Reives	Democratic	54
55	Brody	Republican	55
56	Insko	Democratic	56

District	Name	Party	Previous District
57	Harrison	Democratic	57
58	Quick	Democratic	58
59			
60	Brockman	Democratic	60
61	Faircloth	Republican	61
61	Hardister	Republican	59
62	Blust	Republican	62
63	Ross	Republican	63
64	Riddell	Republican	64
65	Bert Jones	Republican	65
66	Goodman	Democratic	66
67	Burr	Republican	67
68	Horn	Republican	68
69	Arp	Republican	69
70	Hurley	Republican	70
71	Terry	Democratic	71
72	Hanes	Democratic	72
73	Zachary	Republican	73
74	Conrad	Republican	74
75	Lambeth	Republican	75
76	Warren	Republican	77
77	Howard	Republican	79
78	McNiell	Republican	78
79			
80	Watford	Republican	80
81	Potts	Republican	81
82	Johnson	Republican	83
83	Pittman	Republican	82
83	Ford	Republican	76
84	R.Turner	Republican	84
85	Dobson	Republican	85
86	Blackwell	Republican	86

District	Name	Party	Previous District
87	Destin Hall	Republican	87
88	Belk	Democratic	88
89	Setzer	Republican	89
90	Stevens	Republican	90
91	K.Hall	Republican	91
92	Beasley	Democratic	92
93	Jordan	Republican	93
94	Elmore	Republican	94
95	Fraley	Republican	95
96	Adams	Republican	96
97	Saine	Republican	97
98	Bradford	Republican	98
99	R.Moore	Democratic	99
100	Autry	Democratic	100
101	Earle	Democratic	101
102	Carney	Democratic	102
103	Brawley	Republican	103
104	Dulin	Republican	104
105	Stone	Republican	105
106	Cunningham	Democratic	106
107	Alexander	Democratic	107
108	Torbett	Republican	108
109	Bumgardner	Republican	109
110	Hastings	Republican	110
111	T.Moore	Republican	111
112	Rogers	Republican	112
113	Henson	Republican	113
114	Fisher	Democratic	114
115	Ager	Democratic	115
116	B.Turner	Democratic	116
117	McGrady	Republican	117
118	Presnell	Republican	118

District	Name	Party	Previous District
119	Clampitt	Republican	119
120	Corbin	Republican	120

Number of Incumbents in District with more than one Incumbent:	6	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Number of Districts with No Incumbent:	3	<input type="text"/>	
Number of Districts with Incumbents of more than one party:	1	<input type="text"/>	
Number of Districts with Paired Democrats:	0		
Number of Districts with Paired Republicans:	2	<input type="text"/>	

Plan Name: HBK-25
Plan Type:
Date: 08/28/2017
Time: 04:06:01PM
Administrator:

Measures of Compactness

08/28/2017

Sum	N/A	N/A
Min	0.20	0.12
Max	0.70	0.71
Mean	0.41	0.32
Std. Dev.	0.09	0.11

DISTRICT	Reock	Polsby-Popper
1	0.49	0.18
2	0.43	0.49
3	0.37	0.33
4	0.44	0.37
5	0.25	0.27
6	0.33	0.24
7	0.52	0.32
8	0.51	0.39
9	0.40	0.27
10	0.36	0.23
11	0.41	0.34
12	0.36	0.34
13	0.24	0.22
14	0.39	0.28
15	0.55	0.37
16	0.31	0.22
17	0.48	0.30
18	0.51	0.33
19	0.20	0.28
20	0.36	0.20
21	0.29	0.12
22	0.48	0.20
23	0.35	0.24
24	0.53	0.71
25	0.50	0.35
26	0.39	0.27
27	0.52	0.40
28	0.38	0.22
29	0.39	0.34
30	0.40	0.39
31	0.50	0.37
32	0.53	0.51
33	0.45	0.29
34	0.34	0.29
35	0.32	0.33
36	0.31	0.21
37	0.44	0.48
38	0.32	0.30
39	0.43	0.40
40	0.52	0.38

Plan Name: HBK-25	Administrator:
Plan Type:	User:

DISTRICT	Reock	Polsby-Popper
41	0.42	0.40
42	0.50	0.40
43	0.34	0.31
44	0.50	0.24
45	0.46	0.22
46	0.23	0.16
47	0.57	0.42
48	0.48	0.45
49	0.44	0.44
50	0.38	0.34
51	0.52	0.40
52	0.32	0.25
53	0.59	0.47
54	0.45	0.43
55	0.42	0.29
56	0.49	0.34
57	0.37	0.28
58	0.44	0.18
59	0.39	0.25
60	0.29	0.21
61	0.32	0.22
62	0.47	0.50
63	0.34	0.30
64	0.34	0.28
65	0.52	0.47
66	0.40	0.35
67	0.51	0.31
68	0.33	0.28
69	0.37	0.20
70	0.54	0.54
71	0.35	0.19
72	0.50	0.26
73	0.46	0.47
74	0.38	0.23
75	0.22	0.16
76	0.49	0.46
77	0.39	0.35
78	0.36	0.28
79	0.48	0.30
80	0.28	0.22
81	0.50	0.22
82	0.42	0.43
83	0.32	0.25
84	0.51	0.45
85	0.39	0.23
86	0.38	0.27
87	0.50	0.57
88	0.60	0.33
89	0.34	0.26
90	0.29	0.15
91	0.32	0.32
92	0.44	0.25
93	0.57	0.42
94	0.34	0.22
95	0.43	0.37
96	0.30	0.21

Plan Name: HBK-25	Administrator:
Plan Type:	User:

DISTRICT	Reock	Polsby-Popper
97	0.33	0.52
98	0.70	0.64
99	0.43	0.42
100	0.43	0.35
101	0.51	0.34
102	0.64	0.43
103	0.27	0.32
104	0.49	0.35
105	0.49	0.37
106	0.43	0.44
107	0.38	0.20
108	0.44	0.32
109	0.46	0.47
110	0.36	0.26
111	0.40	0.28
112	0.39	0.30
113	0.24	0.21
114	0.39	0.13
115	0.38	0.19
116	0.35	0.23
117	0.40	0.28
118	0.36	0.15
119	0.36	0.20
120	0.40	0.37

Exhibit 12

<p>1 turned out in the end. The 10th is the same.</p> <p>2 The 5th is different in -- because the</p> <p>3 13th was an attempt to split fewer counties. So</p> <p>4 the split in Caldwell is different and it</p> <p>5 puts -- it gets rid of the split into Iredell</p> <p>6 County.</p> <p>7 The boundary between the 13th and --</p> <p>8 what's then the 13th in the final map was -- I'm</p> <p>9 sorry.</p> <p>10 The 2nd was in the beginning map,</p> <p>11 changed the number to the 13th. There was a</p> <p>12 number split at the last minute, a number shift.</p> <p>13 So it's a different line in Guilford and some</p> <p>14 shifts there of counties.</p> <p>15 8 is pretty much the same.</p> <p>16 What shows up as the 2nd on the final</p> <p>17 map was the 13th on this map that we're talking</p> <p>18 about. So the numbers were shifted, but it's</p> <p>19 somewhat different. You can see on -- see where</p> <p>20 the number 4 is on the map, on 19-C, the number</p> <p>21 for District 4 --</p> <p>22 Q. Yes.</p> <p>23 A. -- in Wake County. There's a little appendage</p> <p>24 that goes down from the middle of 13 into that</p> <p>25 yellow area. That was changed.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">241</p>	<p>1 mean by that?</p> <p>2 A. I mean they probably could have made much more</p> <p>3 than about a percent difference or something</p> <p>4 like that.</p> <p>5 Q. A percent difference in what?</p> <p>6 A. In the political makeup of the plan. Again, I'd</p> <p>7 have to -- have to look at the two maps in</p> <p>8 greater detail, but it's pretty much</p> <p>9 substantially the same format. So most of the</p> <p>10 changes were cosmetic, really.</p> <p>11 The only major shift was in -- I'm</p> <p>12 trying to look at the map and -- in the --</p> <p>13 what's labeled in the final map contingency, the</p> <p>14 6th -- the division actually of Guilford County.</p> <p>15 And, of course, one of the criteria that I was</p> <p>16 directed was to avoid splitting counties. And</p> <p>17 in Congress 19-C, which is Page 53, you can see</p> <p>18 that there's a triple split of Guilford and that</p> <p>19 wasn't acceptable.</p> <p>20 Q. But not all the changes resulted in fewer split</p> <p>21 counties.</p> <p>22 A. No, but, for instance, the change we see in 13</p> <p>23 and 4 was actually more a compactness change</p> <p>24 than anything else.</p> <p>25 Q. So help me understand, in this criteria,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">243</p>
<p>1 I think that's pretty much the</p> <p>2 differences. I think the Buncombe County line</p> <p>3 was maybe a little bit different, but I'm not</p> <p>4 sure there's enough detail there.</p> <p>5 Q. What I was trying to understand is what -- what</p> <p>6 were the reasons for those changes. You gave a</p> <p>7 couple of reasons, but are there any -- you</p> <p>8 mentioned for a couple of the changes it was</p> <p>9 done to avoid dividing a county, but are</p> <p>10 there -- some of these changes don't avoid</p> <p>11 dividing a county.</p> <p>12 What were the reasons for those</p> <p>13 changes?</p> <p>14 A. I can't tell you for sure whether 19-C was what</p> <p>15 we call zeroed out, had zero population</p> <p>16 deviations.</p> <p>17 Q. But these changes are more substantial than what</p> <p>18 you would need to zero out the plan.</p> <p>19 A. Yes, I agree with you. Some of them were --</p> <p>20 some of them were political in nature, although</p> <p>21 I don't know they made much difference</p> <p>22 politically, actually. Some degree of political</p> <p>23 change.</p> <p>24 Q. And when you say you don't think that they made</p> <p>25 much difference politically, what -- what do you</p> <p style="text-align: right;">242</p>	<p>1 compactness is defined -- and now I'm looking at</p> <p>2 what was marked as Exhibit 24, I think.</p> <p>3 Do you have that in front of you?</p> <p>4 A. I think it's 24. Do you want a copy?</p> <p>5 Q. No. I have it here.</p> <p>6 In Exhibit 24, Compactness under the</p> <p>7 criteria is defined as -- or it says that you</p> <p>8 keep more counties and VTDs whole as compared to</p> <p>9 the current enacted plan and then it talks about</p> <p>10 when you can divide counties.</p> <p>11 Is there any other -- and you testified</p> <p>12 that you didn't run the compactness measures</p> <p>13 prior to the plan being enacted. So other than</p> <p>14 looking at keeping counties whole and VTDs</p> <p>15 whole, was there anything else that you</p> <p>16 evaluated in determining the compactness of the</p> <p>17 districts?</p> <p>18 A. Well, 50 years of drawing districts and knowing</p> <p>19 a lot about compactness, I knew there was not</p> <p>20 going to be any problem with the fact that these</p> <p>21 new districts were going to be significantly</p> <p>22 more compact than the plan was that was tossed</p> <p>23 out by the Court.</p> <p>24 Q. Right. But when you just told me, for example,</p> <p>25 that a change that was made between the map</p> <p style="text-align: right;">244</p>

<p>1 "Congress 19-C" on Page 53 and the ultimate 2 enacted map "Congress 2016 Contingent-C" on 3 Page 42, you said, well, we made that change to 4 make it more compact, and I was trying to 5 understand what else you were using to make that 6 judgment other than it didn't split a county or 7 it didn't split VTDs.</p> <p>8 A. Well, they have a test that is actually 9 recognized, to some extent, called the 10 interocular test and the invention of Bernie 11 Grofman --</p> <p>12 Q. That's right.</p> <p>13 A. -- which is the eyeball test, and one could see 14 that the compactness score for 14 was going to 15 be significantly affected by that intrusion into 16 the middle of the district. So it was 17 determined it would be better to do -- to not do 18 that unnecessarily.</p> <p>19 MR. FARR: For what district?</p> <p>20 THE WITNESS: This was the 4th district 21 in the plan. It was an intrusion on the 22 "Congress 19-C" which was an earlier map into 23 the yellow district right where the "W" is in 24 Wake County. And even though the district is 25 small, the compactness tests are not -- some</p> <p style="text-align: right;">245</p>	<p>1 Q. But you knew that without actually looking at 2 the racial demographics?</p> <p>3 A. Pretty much. Oh, yes. Past experience.</p> <p>4 And that was the only district which 5 was a Voting Rights district in the state or has 6 been since -- since the initial map that was 7 thrown out in the Shaw decision.</p> <p>8 Q. I want to look at District 19 -- or Map 19-H 9 which -- which is -- it's number 48, Page 48 on 10 Exhibit 31?</p> <p>11 A. H?</p> <p>12 Q. Yes. Congress 19-H. Did you -- did you do a 13 political impact analysis using the formula with 14 the average of election returns for this map?</p> <p>15 A. Okay, I'm trying to find it.</p> <p>16 Q. I'm sorry. It's Page 48 of Exhibit 31.</p> <p>17 A. I got them mixed. Okay.</p> <p>18 I want to make you understand one 19 thing. There was a difference between the 20 political statistics that we may have looked at 21 for the plan as a whole after -- when we were 22 kind of benchmarking the plan and the formula 23 that was in the thematic display. So we might 24 look at several different indicator races, such 25 as 2014 Senate or a governor race.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">247</p>
<p>1 compactness tests are not significantly affected 2 by the actual size of the district but by the 3 shape of the district.</p> <p>4 BY MS. EARLS:</p> <p>5 Q. So you were looking at it and determining based 6 on that that it was more compact by looking at 7 it?</p> <p>8 A. Yes, and it would be.</p> <p>9 Q. You also testified earlier about the Voting 10 Rights Act compliance. And how did you go about 11 ensuring Voting Rights Act compliance in drawing 12 the 2016 congressional plan?</p> <p>13 A. Well, first of all, the only district we had to 14 worry about was District 1, and since it was 15 drawn in the general area that District 1 has 16 been in for decades, actually, and since I was 17 familiar with the old House of Representative 18 districts which are -- actually have been 19 contested now, but which were drawn in 2011, I 20 knew that this new configuration was going to be 21 acceptable under the Voting Rights Act. And 22 indeed, if it hadn't been, the minute that 23 somebody wanted to look at those racial scores, 24 they would probably be objecting to it, and 25 those were known before the map was passed.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">246</p>	<p>1 Q. So --</p> <p>2 A. So if you're looking -- we would know what the 3 politics of that plan were by looking at some of 4 the races individually.</p> <p>5 I didn't have -- I didn't have the data 6 point in my database that could be produced 7 inside Maptitude that would average out all 8 these scores. I suppose somebody could do it 9 who knew the system better than I did, but all I 10 had was me and eight days.</p> <p>11 Q. Right. But while you might have been looking at 12 different combinations of election returns, I 13 also want to make sure we have the full universe 14 of election returns that you potentially were 15 looking at.</p> <p>16 And is it correct that the list of 17 elections in Exhibit 28, the 2016 Redistricting 18 Database Field Key --</p> <p>19 A. 28.</p> <p>20 Q. Exhibit 28.</p> <p>21 A. Let me find it.</p> <p>22 Yes, I believe that the races that I 23 used for the thematic -- is that what you want?</p> <p>24 Q. Well, for both the thematic and then I'll ask 25 you separately for when you were evaluating</p> <p style="text-align: right;">248</p>

<p>1 the --</p> <p>2 A. Yes. These were what were -- well, these are</p> <p>3 the races that -- the races that I used came</p> <p>4 from races from this list.</p> <p>5 Q. Okay. So there weren't any additional election</p> <p>6 returns or other types of political data that</p> <p>7 you were evaluating at any point in time?</p> <p>8 A. No.</p> <p>9 Q. So then going back to Congress 19-H, is it</p> <p>10 possible that this was a map that had -- where</p> <p>11 the political data showed that it would be a 9-4</p> <p>12 set of districts instead of a 10-3?</p> <p>13 A. Well, first of all, I don't agree with the</p> <p>14 premise that the map that we have now is a 10-3</p> <p>15 plan, and I stated that before.</p> <p>16 Q. Why not?</p> <p>17 A. Because I think there are districts in there</p> <p>18 that in a good election year with good</p> <p>19 candidates the Democrats could carry.</p> <p>20 Q. How many?</p> <p>21 A. Three maybe.</p> <p>22 Q. So you think that it could be a 7-6 plan, three</p> <p>23 additional, are you saying?</p> <p>24 A. That would be 6-7, yes.</p> <p>25 Q. And are there some -- are there any particular</p> <p style="text-align: right;">249</p>	<p>1 MR. BONDURANT: And the mathematical</p> <p>2 average or whatever.</p> <p>3 MR. FARR: Right. We'll know when we</p> <p>4 can do that before we break up this week, I</p> <p>5 hope.</p> <p>6 MR. BONDURANT: That would be nice.</p> <p>7 THE WITNESS: I'll give you --</p> <p>8 MR. FARR: Maybe we can do it before</p> <p>9 you leave.</p> <p>10 THE WITNESS: I'll give you the</p> <p>11 formula, the actual formula that was entered in</p> <p>12 Maptitude, and I'll give you the races that</p> <p>13 entered.</p> <p>14 MR. BONDURANT: Good. Thank you.</p> <p>15 THE WITNESS: You're welcome.</p> <p>16 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: This concludes the</p> <p>17 deposition. The time is 6:15 p.m.</p> <p>18 [SIGNATURE RESERVED]</p> <p>19 [DEPOSITION CONCLUDED AT 6:15 P.M.]</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p> <p style="text-align: right;">251</p>
<p>1 election returns that you were relying on to</p> <p>2 make that calculus?</p> <p>3 A. Yes. And I've agreed to give you --</p> <p>4 Q. So again, that was based on your formula?</p> <p>5 A. Yes.</p> <p>6 Q. Okay. So then do you recall what Congress 19-H,</p> <p>7 what your formula generated in terms of the</p> <p>8 political impact of this set of districts?</p> <p>9 A. Again, I'm not sure that I actually calculated</p> <p>10 on a districtwide basis, so --</p> <p>11 Q. You mean on a plan-wide basis?</p> <p>12 A. For the whole plan, yes.</p> <p>13 Q. Okay.</p> <p>14 A. First of all, it split an unnecessary number of</p> <p>15 counties too.</p> <p>16 Q. Those are all my questions. Thank you.</p> <p>17 A. Okay.</p> <p>18 MR. FARR: Thank you.</p> <p>19 MR. BONDURANT: Tom, will you let us</p> <p>20 know when he can give us the information</p> <p>21 regarding these specific elections that he used</p> <p>22 to prepare the 2016 plan.</p> <p>23 MR. FARR: Sure. We'll try to tell you</p> <p>24 when he can get those back to you before you</p> <p>25 leave.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">250</p>	<p>1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DEPONENT</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 I, THOMAS B. HOFELLER, Ph.D., declare under the</p> <p>4 penalties of perjury under the State of North Carolina that</p> <p>5 I have read the foregoing pages, which contain a correct</p> <p>6 transcription of answers made by me to the questions</p> <p>7 therein recorded, with the exception(s) and/or addition(s)</p> <p>8 reflected on the correction sheet attached hereto, if any.</p> <p>9 Signed this the day of , 2017.</p> <p>10</p> <p>11</p> <p>12 THOMAS B. HOFELLER, Ph.D.</p> <p>13</p> <p>14</p> <p>15</p> <p>16</p> <p>17</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p> <p style="text-align: right;">252</p>

Exhibit 13

<p style="text-align: center;">IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA</p> <p>COMMON CAUSE, et al.,))) Plaintiffs,)) vs.) Civil Action No.) 1:16-CV-2016-WO-JEP</p> <p>ROBERT A. RUCHO, in his) official capacity as Chairman) of the North Carolina Senate) Redistricting Committee for the) 2016 Extra Session and) Co-Chairman of the Joint Select) Committee on Congressional) Redistricting, et al.,)) Defendants.))</p> <p>LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NORTH) CAROLINA, et al.,)) Plaintiffs,)) vs.) Civil Action No.) 1:16-CV-1164</p> <p>ROBERT A. RUCHO, in his) official capacity as Chairman) of the North Carolina Senate) Redistricting Committee for the) 2016 Extra Session and) Co-Chairman of the 2016 Joint) Select Committee on) Congressional Redistricting,) et al.,)) Defendants.))</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DEPOSITION OF JAMES G. GIMPEL</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">9:55 A.M.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2017</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">POYNER SPRUILL 301 FAYETTEVILLE STREET, SUITE 1900 RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA</p>	<p>1</p> <p>2 For the Defendants:</p> <p>3 OGLETREE DEAKINS NASH SMOAK</p> <p>4 & STEWART</p> <p>5 BY: THOMAS A. FARR, ESQ.</p> <p>6 PHILLIP STRACH, ESQ.</p> <p>7 4208 Six Forks Road</p> <p>8 Suite 1100</p> <p>9 Raleigh, NC 27609</p> <p>10 (919) 787-9700</p> <p>11 Thomas.Farr@ogletree.com</p> <p>12 Phil.Strach@ogletree.com</p> <p>13</p> <p>14 NC DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE</p> <p>15 BY: JAMES BERNIER, JR., ESQ.</p> <p>16 PO Box 629</p> <p>17 Raleigh, NC 27602</p> <p>18 (919) 716-6400</p> <p>19 APeters@ncdoj.gov</p> <p>20 JBernier@ncdoj.gov</p> <p>21</p> <p>22 The Reporter: Discovery Court Reporters</p> <p>23 and Legal Videographers, LLC</p> <p>24 BY: DENISE MYERS BYRD, CSR 8340</p> <p>25 4208 Six Forks Road, Suite 1000</p> <p>Raleigh, NC 27609</p> <p>(919) 424-8242</p> <p>(919) 649-9998 Direct</p> <p>Denise@DiscoveryDepo.com</p> <p style="text-align: center;">--o0o--</p> <p style="text-align: right;">3</p>
<p>1</p> <p>2</p> <p>3</p> <p>4</p> <p>5</p> <p>6</p> <p>7</p> <p>8</p> <p>9</p> <p>10</p> <p>11</p> <p>12</p> <p>13</p> <p>14</p> <p>15</p> <p>16</p> <p>17</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p> <p style="text-align: center;">APPEARANCES</p> <p>For the Plaintiffs: Common Cause, et al.</p> <p>BONDURANT MIXSON & ELMORE</p> <p>BY: BENJAMIN W. THORPE, ESQ.</p> <p>1201 W. Peachtree Street, NW</p> <p>Suite 3900</p> <p>Atlanta, GA 30309</p> <p>(404) 881-4148</p> <p>BThorpe@bmelaw.com</p> <p>POYNER SPRUILL</p> <p>BY: EDWIN SPEAS, ESQ.</p> <p>CAROLINE MACKIE, ESQ.</p> <p>301 Fayetteville Street</p> <p>Suite 1900</p> <p>Raleigh, NC 27601</p> <p>(919) 783-1140</p> <p>ESpeas@poynerspruill.com</p> <p>CMackie@poynerspruill.com</p> <p>PATTERSON BELKNAP WEBB & TYLER</p> <p>BY: PETER A. NELSON, ESQ.</p> <p>1133 Avenue of the Americas</p> <p>New York, NY 10036</p> <p>(212) 336-2406</p> <p>PNelson@pbwt.com</p> <p>For the Plaintiffs: League of Women Voters, et al.</p> <p>SOUTHERN COALITION FOR</p> <p>SOCIAL JUSTICE</p> <p>BY: ANITA EARLS, ESQ.</p> <p>1415 Highway 54</p> <p>Suite 101</p> <p>Durham, NC 27707</p> <p>(919) 323-3380 x 115</p> <p>AnitaEarls@southerncoalition.org</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2</p>	<p>1</p> <p>2</p> <p>3</p> <p>4</p> <p>5</p> <p>6</p> <p>7</p> <p>8</p> <p>9</p> <p>10</p> <p>11</p> <p>12</p> <p>13</p> <p>14</p> <p>15</p> <p>16</p> <p>17</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p> <p style="text-align: center;">INDEX OF EXAMINATION</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page</p> <p>By Mr. Nelson..... 6</p> <p>By Ms. Earls..... 193</p> <p style="text-align: center;">--o0o--</p> <p style="text-align: right;">4</p>

<p>1 Q. And at the bottom of Page 19, the last sentence 2 of that -- the -- I guess the paragraph at the 3 top of the page, the last sentence says: 4 "But the point is that when you 5 accommodate the goal of ensuring 6 descriptive representation using a 7 template something like Districts 1 and 8 12 of the 2012 plan as the background, 9 this makes it far more difficult to 10 produce any sizable number of competitive 11 seats in the rest of North Carolina." 12 Why do you say that using a template 13 something like Districts 1 and 12 of the 2012 14 plan was at issue? 15 A. Well, you know, I'm using 1 and 12 as the most 16 accessible or convenient example of districts 17 that were drawn to satisfy VRA or that were in 18 compliance. As I said, it's entirely possible, 19 okay, that I could have drawn a couple of other 20 districts that encompass, you know, large or 45 21 or 50 percent black populations in other parts 22 of the state and replicated the analysis with 23 those. 24 I'm not sure much would change about 25 the analysis, which is why having that kind of</p> <p style="text-align: right;">161</p>	<p>1 the VRA districts is to draw districts that 2 ensure -- that guarantee, you know, regular 3 election of members of a minority, racial, 4 ethnic minority, could be black, could be 5 Latino. 6 I know that there has been some 7 controversy about, you know, where those 8 percentages need to be in terms of voting age 9 population or total population. I think there's 10 some debate about that, but, yeah, I mean, there 11 is some degree of artful drawing of districts 12 that's allowed in order to accomplish the goal, 13 you know, of promoting black membership in the 14 U.S. Congress or Latino membership in the U.S. 15 Congress, so that's my understanding. 16 Q. On Page 20, the second to last sentence of the 17 paragraph at the top of the page begins with 18 "Constrained by the need." What basis do you 19 have for saying that the people who drew the 20 2016 map were constrained by the need to 21 consider the African American population as a 22 political bloc tied to a particular geography? 23 A. Well, my understanding is that -- nothing as yet 24 in the law has abolished the VRA, right, the 25 Voting Rights Act. And the Voting Rights Act is</p> <p style="text-align: right;">163</p>
<p>1 cookie cutter, that template of 1 and 12 was 2 helpful. And what I'm saying is that, you know, 3 you take those African American voters out or, 4 in other words, hold those districts constant or 5 hold two VRA districts constant on the map maybe 6 configured differently, all right, and because 7 of what you said a minute ago about the 8 correspondence of Democratic partisanship and 9 the black population, it's going to be difficult 10 to produce a large number of competitive seats 11 in the rest of the state. 12 Q. I think you just used the term VRA district. 13 What is that? 14 A. What is it called, Voting Rights Act? That's a 15 convention I picked up from the lingo associated 16 with the legalese of redistricting cases. VRA, 17 I guess I assume that to mean Voting Rights Act, 18 a district that's drawn in compliance with 19 Voting Rights Act. It's just legalese. You 20 know, maybe I should describe it some other way. 21 Q. But you don't know what a district that's drawn 22 in compliance with the Voting Rights Act is? 23 A. Well, I don't know all the legalese surrounding 24 it, not being an attorney, not being an election 25 lawyer, but my understanding is that the goal of</p> <p style="text-align: right;">162</p>	<p>1 commonly understood, I think, by legislators and 2 others to require that the African American 3 population be concentrated in such a way in 4 sufficient numbers that they can regularly elect 5 a member of their own race or ethnicity, and 6 same with Latinos, to congress -- maybe not, you 7 know, every single election but regularly. 8 And I think that, you know, again, it 9 seems to me that one of the critical questions 10 is what degree of concentration is necessary to 11 ensure that that happens. We discussed that 12 earlier. 13 Q. So do you believe that the General Assembly was 14 required to create congressional districts 15 within some specific range of black voting age 16 population? 17 MR. STRACH: Objection. 18 You can answer that if you can. 19 THE WITNESS: Yeah, I don't know 20 that -- exactly what was circulating in the 21 heads of the state legislators involved, but 22 they certainly must have had cognizance of the 23 fact that if they cracked into the African 24 American communities in drawing the districts, 25 okay, that they were inviting the kind of</p> <p style="text-align: right;">164</p>

<p>1 scrutiny that had led to the creation of these 2 districts in the first place.</p> <p>3 So, I mean, there is a recent history, 4 difficult history here in North Carolina. I 5 don't need to remind you of that, and how could 6 the state legislature not have been thinking of 7 that, okay, when you know they are looking at 8 this map, okay, and realizing that, you know, 9 they are saddled, you know, with some very 10 conflicting and difficult demands in creating 11 this new map. It's implausible for me to think, 12 okay, that, you know, this was not a 13 consideration.</p> <p>14 BY MR. NELSON:</p> <p>15 Q. So you think that the General Assembly 16 considered race data when drawing the map?</p> <p>17 MR. STRACH: Objection. Hold, Jim. 18 Which map are you talking about?</p> <p>19 BY MR. NELSON:</p> <p>20 Q. You think that the General Assembly considered 21 race data when drawing the 2016 map?</p> <p>22 MR. STRACH: Objection; calls for 23 speculation.</p> <p>24 Answer that if you can.</p> <p>25 THE WITNESS: You don't have to</p> <p style="text-align: right;">165</p>	<p>1 But as I said, you don't necessarily 2 have to explicitly consider race data, okay, if 3 you know the state well, okay, and you have the 4 guidance of the previous maps which you know 5 have repeatedly elected black incumbents by 6 pretty safe margins.</p> <p>7 Q. Just to be clear, any statement you make about 8 whether or not the General Assembly actually 9 considered race in drawing the 2016 map is 10 speculation because you haven't seen any 11 discussion of it?</p> <p>12 A. Yes.</p> <p>13 Q. And you say on 20 that -- on Page 20 at the top 14 that the General Assembly was required to modify 15 the 2012 map restricted to modest alterations 16 while still achieving an acceptable outcome.</p> <p>17 What is the basis for saying they were 18 restricted -- that the General Assembly was 19 restricted to modest alterations in 2016?</p> <p>20 A. I'm sorry, where are you at here?</p> <p>21 Q. Top of Page 20. The second sentence we just 22 discussed.</p> <p>23 A. Okay. Well, I think that that weight of the 24 various requirements and the weight of past 25 redistricting practice, you know, limited the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">167</p>
<p>1 consider race data. You don't have to consider 2 race data, okay. There's no need to go to race 3 data, you know, to know, okay -- especially 4 given the knowledge that a lot of these folks 5 have of what's going on in this state and how 6 long they've been around, you don't need race 7 data to consider race data in order to draw maps 8 that ensure the representation of African 9 Americans in the state of North Carolina.</p> <p>10 And, you know, one of the ways that you 11 can do that, by the way, and not consider race 12 data is by falling back on districts that look 13 in many ways like the districts from previous 14 elections.</p> <p>15 BY MR. NELSON:</p> <p>16 Q. And in the materials that you reviewed to 17 prepare this, including legislative history 18 reports, did you see any discussion of 19 consideration of the African American population 20 as a political bloc tied to a particular 21 geography?</p> <p>22 A. Well, I believe that the thrust of the mandate 23 passed, that the legislature was under was 24 to -- was to not focus on the race data. That's 25 what emerged.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">166</p>	<p>1 legislature in what it could do.</p> <p>2 In addition, you know, there's no 3 question that, you know, that two-week window to 4 turn the maps around was pretty limiting as 5 well. You know, how much can you accomplish 6 when you have the weight of these various 7 requirements, plus the weight, you know, of the 8 previous map, the existing map, that is, the 9 2012 map, and undoubtedly, you know, a great 10 many stakeholders on both sides, including the 11 incumbent members of congress themselves, you 12 know, chiming in to make their voices heard.</p> <p>13 So, you know, how much radical change 14 can there be -- how much radical change can 15 there be. When I say modest change, I mean as 16 opposed to like wholesale, you know, very 17 radical changes. And, you know, I don't see 18 how, you know, you can radically change a map 19 given the various strictures and requirements of 20 map drawing, the stakeholders that are present, 21 you know, the conflicting criteria that you're 22 trying to balance, you've got a couple weeks to 23 do it, you know, how much change can you expect. 24 Not much.</p> <p>25 Q. Have you seen any evidence that the incumbent</p> <p style="text-align: right;">168</p>

<p>1 representatives chimed in in any way in the 2 process of drawing the 2016 map? 3 MR. STRACH: Objection. 4 Answer that if you can. 5 THE WITNESS: I don't -- I don't know 6 that for a fact. I know that in the past among 7 the stakeholders very interested in all 8 redistricting are, of course, the incumbent 9 members, okay. It would only stand to reason 10 that they'd have an opinion about it. 11 So it doesn't take much of an 12 imagination to figure that, you know, people 13 whose congressional careers depend to some 14 degree on the way these districts are drawn or 15 care about it, even if they are largely 16 insulated, you know, by their other resources, 17 at least they care about the way the districts 18 are drawn. It would certainly stand to reason 19 that they would have a view on this. 20 I do believe that in a redistricting 21 hearing that Tom referenced in a discussion we 22 had by phone -- 23 MR. STRACH: Hold on a second. Don't 24 talk about anything you and Tom discussed. 25 Are you talking about Tom Farr?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">169</p>	<p>1 sure this is clear for the record. You are 2 instructing your retained expert not to -- I 3 apologize, I just want to use the language of 4 the rule. 5 MR. STRACH: What I said is on the 6 record. It's been transcribed. I'm not going 7 to be cross-examined about it. 8 MR. THORPE: Okay. I will say for the 9 record we've asked your witness to identify 10 facts or data provided by the party you 11 represent, attorney from your firm that the 12 expert considered in forming the opinions to be 13 expressed. I just want to be clear you're 14 instructing him not to answer those questions. 15 MR. STRACH: That's not what I'm 16 instructing him. 17 MR. NELSON: You've instructed him not 18 to disclose information that he received from 19 Mr. Farr that he said that he considered in 20 reaching his opinion. 21 MR. STRACH: He didn't say whether he 22 considered it or not. And I've told him not to 23 discuss conversations he's had with Mr. Farr. 24 MR. NELSON: Well, to be very clear, if 25 I ask him if in fact he did consider that</p> <p style="text-align: right;">171</p>
<p>1 MR. NELSON: To the extent that 2 information that Dr. Gimpel received from 3 Mr. Farr was information that he relied on or 4 considered in generating his report and his 5 opinions here, we are entitled to that 6 information. 7 MR. STRACH: I don't know what he's 8 going to say, but I'm going to instruct him not 9 to discuss discussions with Tom Farr, period. 10 MR. NELSON: I think that's 11 inconsistent with Rule 26 and a discussion that 12 we had on the record earlier today with 13 Mr. Farr. 14 MR. STRACH: That's fine. I disagree. 15 MR. NELSON: I mean, I think that we're 16 entitled to know -- if he relied on information 17 that he received from Mr. Farr, we're entitled 18 to know what that is. 19 MR. STRACH: Okay. We're not going to 20 talk about it today. 21 MR. NELSON: We definitely reserve our 22 right to pursue that -- 23 MR. STRACH: Of course. 24 MR. NELSON: -- that information. 25 MR. THORPE: Okay. I just want to make</p> <p style="text-align: right;">170</p>	<p>1 information in reaching his opinion and he was 2 about to talk about it, then are you instructing 3 him not to disclose that information? 4 MR. STRACH: If he says he considered 5 it, then he can discuss it. 6 BY MR. NELSON: 7 Q. Okay. Dr. Gimpel, the information that you were 8 about to tell me, did you consider -- 9 A. Well, I think -- 10 MR. STRACH: Jim, Jim, listen to the 11 question first, then talk. 12 BY MR. NELSON: 13 Q. Dr. Gimpel, the information you were about to 14 describe in a call with Mr. Farr, is that 15 information that you considered or relied on in 16 preparing this report in reaching your opinions 17 in this case? 18 A. It's a small tidbit of information that is 19 probably pretty trivial in the grand scheme of 20 things, which means that -- 21 MR. STRACH: Jim, let me ask you: Did 22 you rely on the information or not? That's a 23 yes-or-no question. 24 THE WITNESS: It bears on the question 25 that he asked me.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">172</p>