



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P. O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707-7882

To: The People's Map Commission

c/o: Governor Tony Evers

Every ten years, the Wisconsin Constitution tasks the State Legislature with drawing new boundaries for congressional, State Senate, and State Assembly districts. The Legislature is hard at work reapportioning these districts based on new 2020 Census data. As part of the ongoing redistricting efforts, we jointly invite you to provide input. As I'm sure you're aware, the Legislature has solicited input from Wisconsinites, other groups interested in the redistricting process, and all current Members of the Legislature.

We understand from the Governor's Executive Order that his "People's Maps Commission" would also like to provide input to the Legislature.

We welcome the People's Maps Commission to submit materials directly to our website for consideration. Provided materials could address traditional redistricting criteria, state and federal constitutional redistricting requirements, or federal Voting Rights Act requirements.

If your submission includes proposed maps, please consider the following. The Constitution generally prohibits the Legislature from engaging in race-based districting, but the U.S. Supreme Court has held that race-based districting is permissible in limited circumstances if it is necessary to comply with Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act.

Accordingly, if your submission includes proposed maps that used race-based considerations in any way and at any point in the process, then your submission must also include for each affected map:

- (1) An analysis that the affected racial group is sufficiently large and geographically compact to constitute a majority in a single-member district, including all supporting materials;
- (2) an assessment of whether voting preferences of the affected racial group in the identified area are politically cohesive and whether other racial groups vote sufficiently as a bloc to defeat the affected racial group's preferred candidate (often called a "racially polarized voting analysis");

- (3) all supporting materials for any racially polarized voting analysis¹; and
- (4) proposed district(s), with an explanation for the proposed district lines.

If you do not submit the above materials, your submission should certify that the People's Maps Commission did not use race-based considerations in any way and at any point in the process. The Legislature must be able to ensure that the Commission's submission is compliant with the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and other state and federal laws.

Please submit any comments before October 15. Comments and any supporting materials can be submitted at <https://drawyourdistrict.legis.wisconsin.gov/Upload> or to Rep.Vos@legis.wisconsin.gov and Sen.LeMahieu@legis.wisconsin.gov.

Sincerely,



Speaker Robin Vos



Majority Leader Devin LeMahieu

¹ Supporting materials would include: a description of all inputs used, including but not limited to identification of elections analyzed and rationale for selection of each; database containing source election and geographic data, and any intermediate and ancillary data used in the analysis; and any other information used for methods of voter prediction (e.g. Bayesian Improved Surname Geocoding); and any other documentation or metadata describing all data sources and data preparation steps. The racially polarized voting analysis should also include an explanation of the statistical analysis, including but not limited to: documentation of the methods and parameters used; any data or analysis of cross-over voting; and a database of all results.