



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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

To: *All Interested Wisconsin Citizens*

cc: *All Members of the Wisconsin State Assembly and State Senate*
The Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund
Voces de la Frontera
The League of United Latin American Citizens
NAACP Wisconsin State Conference
Wisconsin Democracy Campaign
Fair Elections Project
Law Forward
Brennan Center for Justice
Black Leaders Organizing Communities
League of Women Voters of Wisconsin, Inc.

Every ten years, the Wisconsin Constitution tasks the Legislature with drawing new boundaries for congressional, State Senate, and State Assembly districts. As part of the State Legislature's ongoing redistricting efforts, we jointly invite you to provide input.

In August, the Legislature launched *Draw Your District Wisconsin*—a way for Wisconsinites to provide input on the 2021 redistricting process. Go to drawyourdistrict.legis.wisconsin.gov to provide input available now and ending in mid-October. On the Legislature's website, you can create a full statewide plan, a regional plan, or identify a community of interest.

We also welcome you to submit additional materials. Materials provided could address traditional redistricting criteria, state and federal constitutional redistricting requirements, or federal Voting Rights Act requirements.

If your submission includes comments pertaining to the Voting Rights Act, 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. If you believe Section 2 requires race-based districting, then your comments should include:

- (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.

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.