



LWVMA People Powered Fair Maps

Day of Action

Talking Points

Local Leagues meeting with state representatives and senators

April 29, 2021

Objective: Schedule a virtual meeting with your state representative and senator to let them know that the League is committed to fair maps being drawn to ensure equitable representation for residents of Massachusetts.

Begin meeting thanking your legislator for meeting with you to talk about redistricting and our interest in fair and equitable redistricting.

Background Information:

- Congressional, state legislator, and Governor's Council districts are established every ten years using the U.S. Census data.
- 2021 redistricting will use the 2020 Census data to establish the Congressional, state legislator, and Governor's Council districts that will be used for elections from 2022 through 2030.
- Massachusetts redistricting maps are drawn by the legislature and approved by the Governor.
- The Special Joint Committee on Redistricting will hold public hearings and propose redistricting maps to the House and Senate for approval. Senator William Brownsberger and Representative Mike Moran are co-chairs of the Redistricting Committee.
 - The Redistricting Committee has committed to conducting the redistricting process in an open and transparent manner. Thank them for doing so.
 - The [Redistricting Committee's public-facing website](#) and process should encourage unbiased testimony by citizens-at-large, representatives of public interest groups, and members of traditionally under-represented groups.
 - The Redistricting Committee held its first public hearing to obtain input on the proposed redistricting process on April 14, 2021. LWVMA provided testimony at this hearing. (Have a copy of the testimony to share with the legislator).
 - Find a list of upcoming public hearings on [the committee's website here](#).
- Redistricting in Massachusetts must be completed by November 8, 2021 as required by the Massachusetts State Constitution.

Talking Points:



- The League of Women Voters “*Supports redistricting processes and enforceable standards that promote fair and effective representation at all levels of government with maximum opportunity for public participation.*”
- An open and transparent process that encourages broad public input should result in unbiased maps that provide for effective representation of racial and linguistic minorities, low-income people, and immigrants, and for fair representation for all residents in Massachusetts. An open and transparent process will create public confidence in the final maps.
- The League will be supporting this process by helping train our communities on the redistricting process, help publicize Committee’s open hearings, and encourage community members to attend and present testimony at these hearings.

Thank them for their time.