

From:

Subject:

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Written Testimony for Redistricting

Friday, April 16, 2021 12:26:33 PM

In 2018, nearly 50 percent of state legislative races in Illinois were uncontested.

These are the kind of voting "choices" we have been getting in Illinois. These are actually no real choices at all. And this is due to partisan redistricting, where legislative maps are drawn to ensure that incumbents stay in office.

The problem this year is that the final Census data will not be available until September 30. And the Illinois General Assembly is required by the state's Constitution to complete the new maps by June 30.

I agree with the Illinois League of Women Voters recommendations: 1) frequent public hearings be held for input from Illinois citizens; 2) that an additional hearing be held after the introduction of a final map that will allow for adjustments before the final map is approved by the state legislature; 3) that written evidence be provided that the final proposed map meets Federal and Illinois Voting Rights Act Standards, which should ensure effective representation of racial and linguistic minorities.

Thank you for your consideration of my remarks.

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