

March 19, 2021

Dear Members of the Redistricting- West Central Illinois Committee,

I am writing on behalf of my constituents in District 5 of McLean County and wholly independent of the McLean County Board. In the matter of Redistricting principles and requirements, the Census, and the boundaries of Illinois Congressional, Legislative and Representative Districts. I implore you to review our current State House, State Senate and Federal House district lines and make the necessary changes to preserve the integrity of our community in representation.

In researching the redistricting process at the County level I found statues that specifically reference division of "townships or municipalities ONLY WHEN NECESSARY" (see statue listed below). Similar principles should apply to the districts drawn at the State and Federal levels.

The current lines in McLean County lead to confusion among residents of district lines and divided representation which is diluted representation. We are a growing county and are facing unique needs for a downstate community. We deserve a unified voice from State representation in the State House, State Senate and in Washington D.C.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Johnston
McLean County Board, District 5

(55 ILCS 5/2-3003) (from Ch. 34, par. 2-3003)

Sec. 2-3003. Apportionment plan.

(1) If the county board determines that members shall be elected by districts, it shall develop an apportionment plan and specify the number of districts and the number of county board members to be elected from each district and whether voters will have cumulative voting rights in multi-member districts. Each such district:

a. Shall be substantially equal in population to each other district;

b. Shall be comprised of contiguous territory, as nearly compact as practicable; and

c. May divide townships or municipalities only when necessary to conform to the population requirement of paragraph a. of this Section.

d. Shall be created in such a manner so that no precinct shall be divided between 2 or more districts, insofar as is practicable.