

PROPONENT/OPPONENT/INTERESTED PARTY TESTIMONY OF:

NAME / ORGANIZATION

ADDRESS

EMAIL

IN SUPPORT OF / IN OPPOSITION TO:

Maps proposed by the Ohio Citizens' Redistricting Commission

HB442 (Maps proposed by Representative Isaachson) / SB259 (Maps proposed by Senator Antonio)

Columbus, Ohio September 22nd 2025

Good afternoon Co-Chair Bird, Co-Chair Timken, Ranking Member Antonio, and members of the Joint Committee on Congressional Redistricting. *(Optional to include additional members: Senators Blackshear, Senator Gavarone, Senator Huffman, Senator Reineke, Representative Dani Isaacsohn, Representative Santucci, Representative Stewart, Representative Swearingen and Representative Tims.)* Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony today.

My name is _____ and I live in (city) and represent (organization if applicable).

[INTRO PARAGRAPH] Set the stage with two or three short sentences.

[SECOND PARAGRAPH] How gerrymandering has impacted you

[THIRD PARAGRAPH] Why we want and need a fair redistricting process

[CLOSING]

*[*Talking Points Can be Found Here*](#)*

Sample Testimony narrative from the Ohio Organizing Collaborative below.

We teach people everyday that their votes matter, that their voices matter, but the rules of our democracy have been rigged by partisan gerrymandering. If we had fair maps in Ohio, we would be having more debates of authentic differences of ideas in the public arena -- differences about how to solve our toughest problems and pass policy solutions that our communities desperately need.

Ohio is a big state. We definitely don't all think the same and we don't all experience the same opportunity to succeed. But we do have a lot in common. Our communities might look different,

but from suburbs to small towns, and cities to the country we are facing similar problems that require collective solutions. Addiction is decimating families, schools don't have the resources they need, ICUs are overflowing and parents are losing sleep at night wondering how they are going to make ends meet.

Two times, Ohioans voted in overwhelming numbers to reform our constitution to build a more fair, democratic governing process together. Yet the majority party leadership of this commission passed maps that failed to meet the basic requirements of the constitution and failed to honor the spirit of these reforms. There have been thorough and robust processes like the one led by the Ohio Citizens Redistricting Commission which was much more accessible to many parents and working people and produced fair, proportional maps with fair opportunities for minority communities to make their voices heard. The Supreme Court mandated that you comply with the letter and the spirit of the law that expectation still stands.

The current supermajority enjoyed in our Congressional Delegation was achieved through a rigged system it has left behind everyday Ohioans. We are paying the price through rollback of health insurance coverage, over-reliance on property taxes to support our schools, deteriorating environmental protections, and the loss of our civil and voting rights.

We need fair representation in Congress which means the number of Democratic and Republican seats need to mirror how Ohioans actually vote - roughly 46% Democrat and 54% Republican. That means our maps should include 7 Democratic and 8 Republican leaning Congressional districts.

One thing that unites us all is the hope and joy we find in our communities, the people and places that give color to our lives every day. Each and every one deserves to be respected enough by this committee to have their voices heard.