

Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission
January 7, 2021 Meeting Public Comment

Date of Submission: Thursday, January 7, 2021 9:01AM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Lois Miller
Subject: 4th district redistricting wishes

I live outside Bancroft. [REDACTED]. The 4th district, represented by Moolenaar is heavily gerrymandered, my area is right on the southeastern border. I would like to be part of the 5th district, Flint, which is represented by Dan Kildee. All my ties are with Flint, and the wider Genesee County area, and it would make a lot more sense if all of Shiawassee Township was in the 5th district.

Date of Submission: Wednesday, January 6, 2021
Method of Submission: SurveyMonkey ICRC Committee Meetings 1/7 – Public Comment Submission Form
Name: Paul Kerman
Written Public Comment:

If all of the precincts were required to be the same shape with four sides, following the county design, it would eliminate a great deal of gerrymandering. Exceptions can be allowed where topography or common sense dictates; but severely limit it's extent of use.

Date of Submission: Wednesday, January 6, 2021 10:31AM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Lois Miller
Subject: No to Lancaster

Please, do not hire Lancaster as General Manager.

Thank you,

Lois Miller

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Date of Submission: Tuesday, January 5, 2021
Method of Submission: SurveyMonkey ICRC Committee Meetings 1/7 – Public Comment Submission Form
Name: Anthony DiMeglio

Written Public Comment:

As a resident of Kent County, I would love to see the entire county be in one federal congressional district, and no longer be divided like it has for the past two decades. Kent County's population is approximately the size of a single congressional district, it has no need to be divided anylonger.

Date of Submission: Tuesday, January 5, 2021

Method of Submission: SurveyMonkey ICRC Committee Meetings 1/7 – Public Comment Submission Form

Name: Sean Lucas

Written Public Comment:

There seems to be a very disciplined science around the creation of districts. To what extent will experts in that field be used in the re-mapping of the districts? And what data will they use or be given to help derive new borders? And finally, what is the criteria used to drive their analysis (like balance of rep./dem. per district, more contiguous or compact regions, etc.)?

Date of Submission: Tuesday, January 5, 2021

Method of Submission: SurveyMonkey ICRC Committee Meetings 1/7 – Public Comment Submission Form

Name: Matthew Abel

Written Public Comment:

I would suggest the new districts be drawn in a way that keeps counties, cities, townships, and villages from being divided into different districts as much as possible.

Date of Submission: Tuesday, January 5, 2021 4:51PM

Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>

Name: G P Witteveen

Subject: public comment for Redistricting

Please consider contracting with ethnographer or documentary video-maker to chronicle this important historical event from start to finish.

Whether or not the finished story they create is edited "for prime time" or merely as an historical "rough draft" that others can dig into, it is worth doing for Michiganders now and in the future; but also it may be of use to other states that undertake a similar process after Michigan does.

Sincerely,

Guven Peter Witteveen

lifetime member,
American Anthropological Association

[REDACTED]
Grand Rapids, MI 49505

Date of Submission: Monday, January 4, 2021 6:57PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Andy Schor
Subject: Recommendation for Walt Sorg

Members of the Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission:

Thank you for your service to the state of Michigan. You have a very important and difficult job ahead of you. Thank you for taking your time to serve. I am writing to highly endorse the application by Walter Sorg to be the staff advisor to the Commission.

The work of this Commission needs someone who has been an advocate for your efforts and work. I have known Mr. Sorg for many years, and I know he is passionate about good government.

I currently serve as the Mayor of the City of Lansing. This position, which is non-partisan, allows me to govern and grow my city based on the needs and not politics. That is what your mission is all about. And that is what Walt Sorg believes in his heart and mind. He has been a friend to me and someone who has helped me for years. Not because of partisanship, but because of an interest in good governance. And now he is offering up this service to you. I am excited for him to have this opportunity, excited for you to have such a quality candidate, and excited for the State of Michigan to have a well-run and professional commission!

As you probably know, Mr. Sorg's worked for 8 the years as an unpaid advocate for enactment of redistricting. I remember when he first suggested this to me. I did not believe that it could be done, but he put his mind and talents into this effort, and helped to get it done. Not in a partisan way, but in a way to win over the hearts and minds of Michiganders of all political persuasions.

I appreciate your time and consideration. Your Commission, and the State of Michigan, will be well served by retaining Mr. Sorg as your communications/community relations director. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need further information.

Sincerely,

Andy Schor
Mayor
City of Lansing

Date of Submission: Wednesday, December 30, 2020 10:04PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Leeta B. von Buelow
Subject: Protest hire of James Lancaster, a leftist Democcrat

Dear Sirs:

Please do not hire James Lancaster to be General Counsel for the Redistricting Commission! This position is supposed to be non-partisan and he has shown that he is a left-wing Democrat who contributes to leftist candidates. He cannot give impartial counsel to the commission. Instead he will steer to the commission to follow left-leaning policies and not follow the will of the people. I await your reply.

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Mrs. Leeta von Bülow

Date of Submission: Friday, December 25, 2020 4:35AM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Ron Howell
Subject: Map availability for HS Students

Dear Commissioners:

High School students in Michigan are required to take "civics" which includes a section on who are their elected officials. I hope that as part of the final availability of the maps an easy means of access by smart phone is provided. It should be relatively easy for the State to have an app developed that allows a citizen to enter into their location similar to google maps and obtain the District map and number of their State Representative, State Senator and Congressperson and US Senator

Thank you
Ron M. Howell
Cedar Springs

Date of Submission: Thursday, December 17, 2020 6:06PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Barbara Stroupe
Subject: Please Reject Mr. Lancaster From Further Consideration

Dear Redistricting Commissioners,

I am writing to you to request that the Michigan Redistricting Commissioner members deny any further consideration for the General Counsel position the current candidate under consideration, James Lancaster.

It is widely known that Mr. Lancaster is a partisan attorney. Under Proposal I passed in 2018, the residents of Michigan made their voices clear that redistricting was to be done in a non-partisan matter

away from partisan politics. There is no doubt that Mr. Lancaster cannot provide unbiased recommendations regarding the Commission's legal matters.

Looking through Mr. Lancaster's political contributions, it is clear that he strongly favors Democratic candidates and liberal activist organizations. Again, the Independent Redistricting Commission has a mission that is based around the fundamental belief that they are to act as a non-partisan entity. Having the Commission's General Counsel be a clear partisan individual will undermine the Commission's integrity.

Mr. Lancaster also has a clear conflict of interest as he served as one of the main legal attorneys for the political organization that drafted and supported Proposal I's passage in 2018. This creates a situation where the individual who drafted the language would now have to give neutral legal advice on the language he helped write.

I encourage the Commission to select a different individual who can serve in a more non-partisan and natural manner.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Barbara Stroupe
[Redacted]
Monroe, MI 48161
[Name]
[Address]

Sent from my iPad
