

# WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: **11/7/2021**

Name: **Dr. Mark G. Ryland**

Are you representing: Yourself  Organization

Organization (If Applicable):

Position/Title:

Address: **1961 Thorndale Ave.**

City: **Stow** State: **Ohio** Zip: **44224**

Best Contact Telephone: **(330) 285-0641** Email : **mark.ryland@tri-c.edu**

Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list? Yes  No

## Business before the committee

Legislation (Bill/Resolution Number): **S.B. No. 237 (Republican)**

Specific Issue: **Fair Maps and redistricting**

Are you testifying as a: Proponent  Opponent  Interested Party

Are you testifying: In-Person  Written-Only

Will you have a written statement, visual aids, or other material to distribute? Yes  No

(If yes, please send an electronic version of the documents, if possible, to the Chairs office prior to committee. You may also submit hard copies to the Chairs staff prior to committee.)

How much time will your testimony require? **1-2 minutes**

Please provide a brief statement on your position: **The Republican House and Senate have violated the Constitution by not forming a joint legislative committee to review fair congressional maps. They have held their own meetings and have drawn up a map even less fair than the abysmal map of 2011. This must be struck down to allow for a truly fair congressional map.**

*Please be advised that this form and any materials (written or otherwise) submitted or presented to this committee are records that may be requested by the public and may be published online.*

**OPPONENT TESTIMONY**

**Dr. Mark G. Ryland**

**1961 Thorndale Ave.**

**IN SUPPORT OF:**

**Fair Maps and redistricting**

**Senate Local Government Elections Committee**

My name is Dr. Mark Ryland, I live in Stow, Ohio and work at Cuyahoga Community College as an Associate Professor in an Allied Health Career Field.

I am appalled yet not one bit surprised that Ohio House and Senate Republicans have come up with their own proposed congressional map that gives them 87% (13 of 15 congressional seats). You were told by the majority of voters in 2018 that FAIRER maps were needed and you dragged your feet for three years and did nothing. The inaction was driven by partisan politics and was obviously purposeful. Now you want to ram-rod an even less fair map down our throats in the 11<sup>th</sup> hour.

You have also apparently not even followed the proper protocol of forming a joint legislative committee which the Constitution calls for. Rather, the House and Senate have only held committee hearings on proposed maps.

The Redistricting Committee must strike this horribly unfair map down. As a tax paying citizen of Ohio, I demand you do your jobs. You have shirked your responsibilities, played partisan politics, and have not represented the citizens of Ohio. You do not deserve our votes or our respect.

This type of purposeful, partisan tactics and strategy is undermining our Democracy, and you should be ashamed of yourselves. When I enlisted in the United States Navy and volunteered for submarine duty and served on a nuclear fast attack submarine during the Cod War, I did so to defend our nation against authoritarian political tactics and strategies the Republicans are presently demonstrating.

The citizens of Ohio deserve better.