As Introduced

135th General Assembly Regular Session 2023-2024

H. R. No. 584

Representatives Russo, Upchurch

Cosponsors: Representatives Jarrells, Humphrey, Mohamed, Piccolantonio, Brown, Miller, A., Liston, Abdullahi, Somani, Skindell, Brennan, Dell'Aquila, Sweeney, Brewer, Robinson, Brent, Troy, Isaacsohn, Thomas, C., Denson, Baker, Whitted, Sims, Weinstein, Grim, Rogers, Miller, J., McNally, Blackshear

A RESOLUTION

То	express the Ohio House of Representatives'	1
	support for the Citizens Not Politicians—Citizens	2
	Redistricting Commission Initiative, which would	3
	transfer the power of drawing legislative and	4
	congressional maps from politicians and lobbyists	5
	to the citizens of Ohio; to address the problems,	6
	risks, and political extremism of politician-led	7
	gerrymandering that undermines fair	8
	representation; and to encourage Ohioans to	9
	support the measure for a freer, more democratic	10
	state.	11

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

WHEREAS, The drawing of legislative and congressional maps,	12
or the redistricting process, has historically been controlled	13
by politicians and lobbyists, leading to districts that serve	14
political interests rather than the people of Ohio; and	15
WHEREAS, Extreme gerrymandering prevents Ohioans from	16

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having the fair representation they deserve, allowing	17	
politicians to manipulate and rig district boundaries to secure	18	
their own power and diminish the influence of individual voters;	19	
and	20	
WHEREAS, Rigged districts distort our democracy, making it	21	
more difficult for voters to hold their elected officials	22	
accountable and reducing the overall impact of each citizen's	23	
vote; and	24	
WHEREAS, Gerrymandering takes power away from the people of	25	
Ohio, allowing representatives to choose their voters rather	26	
than voters choosing their representatives, thereby undermining	27	
the foundational principles of free and fair elections that	28	
produce democratic governance; and	29	
WHEREAS, The Citizens Redistricting Commission Initiative	30	
proposes a more transparent and fair process by placing the	31	
responsibility of redistricting in the hands of an independent	32	
commission composed of Ohio citizens, rather than politicians	33	
and lobbyists; and	34	
WHEREAS, The Citizens Redistricting Commission Initiative	35	
seeks to create legislative and congressional maps that reflect	36	
the true will of the people, ensuring that every Ohioan's vote	37	
carries equal weight in determining their representation; and	38	
WHEREAS, Empowering citizens to be a part of the	39	
redistricting process will strengthen Ohio's democracy, enhance	40	
the integrity of our elections, and restore trust in our	41	
political system; now therefore be it	42	
RESOLVED, That we, the members of the House of	43	
Representatives of the 135th General Assembly of the State of	44	
Ohio, conclude that the Citizens Not Politicians—Citizens	45	
Redistricting Commission Initiative serves the best interests of	46	
the people of Ohio, will bring fairness and transparency to the	47	

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redistricting process, and will protect the fundamental right of	48
Ohioans to have a meaningful and impactful vote; and be it	49
further	50
RESOLVED, That we, the members of the House of	51
Representatives of the 135th General Assembly of the State of	52
Ohio, urge the people of the State of Ohio to support the	53
Citizens Not Politicians—Citizens Redistricting Commission	54
Initiative, thereby ensuring fair representation, preserving the	55
health of our democracy, and empowering all citizens to have a	56
voice in the governance of our state; and be it further	57
RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives	58
transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the	59
Governor and to the news media of Ohio.	60