

Testimony for Fair Congressional Districts before The Ohio House Government Oversight Committee by Mike Halaiko on November 10, 2021

Chair Wilkins, Vice Chair White, Ranking Member Brown, and Members of The Ohio House Government Oversight Committee,

My name is Mike Halaiko. I am a resident of Pickerington, Ohio, and a lifetime Educator, who is retired after 40 years of teaching, administrating, and coaching in Ohio schools, beginning in Akron, then Cleveland, and with the majority of service in New Lexington City Schools.

I come before you today to urge and demand, as a lifetime Ohio voter, that you live up to your oaths as Ohio Representatives and follow the letter and spirit of The Ohio Constitution, in creating Fair Maps, that ensure that all of our votes count.

There are many more voters that have worked tirelessly in the last decade, and even longer, for fairness of district maps, at all levels, and you must not turn your backs on them, and ignore the overwhelming will of the voters, that have presented you with the mandate to create maps that will be honest and fair.

Voter suppression through partisan gerrymandering is the death knell of any hope for democracy.

Please rise above any propensity to maintain power, and instead, create fair maps that insure a more just, more representative government.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify, and I welcome your questions.

Sincerely and urgently,

Mike Halaiko
Retired Ohio Voter and Educator
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