



Last Study Committee on Redistricting Meeting October 17th

The final meeting of the Special Interim Study Committee on Redistricting will be held on Monday, October 17th at 1 p.m. at the State House in the House Chamber. It will be the final committee meeting and they will be voting on a proposal that will serve as the committee's recommendation to the General Assembly on what redistricting reform legislation should entail. It is important that we get a strong recommendation from the study committee because if they fail to endorse reform - or put forth a weak proposal - it hurts our chances of passing reform through the legislature. In effect, a strong recommendation from the study committee amounts to a seal of approval and will improve our odds significantly. It is time to put the pressure on and let study committee members know they have a huge responsibility here and must get it right.

The ICIR presented its reform proposal to the study committee last week and it was met with enthusiasm by some and with skepticism from others. We are in the process of meeting with committee members individually to discuss the proposal in detail and to ask for their support. We need your help getting them to listen.

Please contact the study committee members immediately with this simple message: Support the redistricting coalition's reform proposal. We need to put a fair and balanced group of citizens in charge of redistricting

Committee Contact Information:

Chairman Jerry Torr - h39@iga.in.gov Ask Rep. Torr to forward your message to the citizen members of the study committee, Ted Boehm, Beverly Gard, Sheila Kennedy and Tom Sugar.

Vice-Chair Brandt Hershman - Senator.Hershman@iga.in.gov

Rep. John Bartlett - h95@iga.in.gov

Rep. Justin Moed - h97@iga.in.gov

Rep. Kathy Richardson - h29@iga.in.gov

Sen. Tim Lanane - s25@iga.in.gov

Sen. Patricia Miller - Senator.Miller@iga.in.gov

Sen. Karen Tallian - s4@iga.in.gov

Where Do The Gubernatorial Candidates Stand on Reform?

Let's find out. Go to www.indianadebatecommission.org and submit a question for the upcoming gubernatorial debates. Ask the candidates if they support an end to gerrymandering by putting a politically balanced group of citizens in charge of redistricting.

One Last Push, Then on to the General Assembly

It's vital we have a large public turnout for this last committee hearing. Following our usual tradition, we'll convene for lunch before the meeting, at 11 a.m. at the State Library at 315 W. Ohio. We are planning a media event before the lunch to highlight the bipartisan support that exists for redistricting reform. More details to come.

If you will be attending the lunch meeting, RSVP to jvaughn@commoncause.org.

The End is Near

At least in terms of the study committee process! We have done a great job bird-dogging this committee and we have given them a well-conceived and fair blueprint for reform. All they have to do is listen to the people. Be sure and make your voice heard to the study committee members before the next meeting - and make plans to be there on Oct 17th. We may have a lot of celebrating to do - as well as getting prepped for the 2017 General Assembly. We can't do this without you -thanks for all your efforts so far and let's keep the pressure on.