



Representative Emilia Strong Sykes
Minority Leader
34th House District

October 25, 2021

The Honorable Robert R. Cupp
Ohio House of Representatives
77 S. High Street
Columbus, OH 43215

The Honorable Matt Huffman
Ohio Senate
1 Capitol Square
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Speaker Cupp and Senate President Huffman:

I write today to request that the General Assembly take the necessary steps to be prepared to consider Congressional district maps in the eventuality that maps will not be approved by the Ohio Redistricting Commission by the October 31, 2021 deadline. On Monday, November 1st the Congressional maps will move back to the responsibility of the legislature and there are a number of decisions that will need to be made to be able to begin those deliberations.

Article XIX, Section 1(G) of the Ohio Constitution states: "Before the general assembly passes a congressional district plan under any division of this section, a joint committee of the general assembly shall hold at least two public committee hearings concerning a proposed plan." While the final proposed state legislative district plan received zero hearings in the 90 minutes between its unveiling and its adoption, a congressional map must receive at least two hearings.

I have the following recommendations:

1. Name a Joint Committee no later than November 4, 2021
2. Release details of the committee including the number of Democrats and Republicans who will be named.

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3. Introduce the bill detailing the congressional plan no later than November 10, 2021.
4. Release a hearing schedule to the public with hearings beginning no later than November 15, 2021.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Emilia Strong Sykes
Ohio House Minority Leader

cc: Senator Kenny Yuko