



Redistricting Process Talking Points

REDISTRICTING FACTS

- These maps will be **used** for the **next 10 years**.
- Each **House district** will include nearly **180,000 Floridians**.
- The **Fair Districts Amendments** in the **Florida Constitution** and the federal **Voting Rights Act** require fair maps that protect the voting power of minority communities.

OVERALL MESSAGING

- This process has **not** been **transparent**.
- This process has **not protected** minority voters.
- This process deviated from standard legislative practice.

TRANSPARENCY TALKING POINTS

- This process has **not been open**. The public, and members of the legislature, are being told “*trust us*” without being shown how the process worked.
- The **underlying data** for many districts have **not been made available** to members of the public. We still have questions about where population growth occurred. We don’t know how these maps will perform, or how they came to draw these lines.

MINORITY PROTECTION TALKING POINTS

- The Fair Districts Amendments in the State Constitution say that districts **shall not be drawn** with the intent or result of denying or abridging the equal opportunity of racial or language minorities to participate in the political process or to diminish their ability to elect representatives of their choice. This is supposed to stop **retrogression** and **prevent vote dilution** through **packing** and **cracking**. We are not confident the House met that burden.



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MINORITY PROTECTION TALKING POINTS (continued)

- Increases in minority numbers **have not** translated to increases in minority districts. (500,000 additional Black residents, 1.5 million additional Hispanic residents.) **That's equal to 2.75 entirely Black districts and 8.333 entirely Hispanic districts.**
- There are **no additional minority districts** in these maps.

DEVIATION TALKING POINTS

- In a very unusual move, the **Governor submitted** his own blatantly unconstitutional Congressional **map**, which unlawfully diminish the ability of Black voters to elect candidates of their choice. Like almost everything the Governor does, these seem to be politically driven to please and appease others in his quest for the presidency.
- The House is **yet to be presented** with Senate redistricted maps and expects the House to **vote** on them **blindly**. This is **never done** for any legislation.

GUIDANCE FOR TALKING ABOUT REDISTRICTING

Redistricting **is not** a forbidden topic. You **can and should** be getting input from your communities to inform your vote, and using your knowledge of the area to inform them about the process. However, the state constitution takes some things off the table. Particularly important is the provision that no apportionment plan or district shall be drawn with the **intent to favor or disfavor a political party or an incumbent**.

To avoid confusion about what your intent is, especially knowing lawsuits are certain to follow, keep the **focus on people and communities**, not on you or your district.



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WHAT IS NEEDED TO DO THE JOB RIGHT

- Data on where Haitian-Creole speakers are, data on where Haitian communities are where the communities grew the most and live, and data on how they vote.
- Data on where the Hispanic/Latino population grew the most, data on how compact Hispanic/Latino communities are where the communities grew the most, data on how they vote.
- Data on where Black communities grew the most, data on how compact Black communities are where the communities grew the most, data on how they vote.
- Racial voting patterns analysis, performance analysis, and functional analysis.
- Software and expertise to use non-census data sets, such as the American Communities Survey (ACS) to gap-fill our missing data.
- Opportunity for remote testimony for Floridians that cannot travel to Tallahassee.
- Language accessibility for all Floridians, particularly for Haitian-Creole and Spanish speakers.
- Take the time during the Legislative Session to obtain missing information and critically review the proposed maps.
- Rushing to a vote is not needed. Take your time.
- The Florida Legislature had 10 years to prepare for and get the redistricting process right. These are not outlandish expectations.

TAKEAWAY TALKING POINTS

- The maps need to **reflect** Florida's electorate.
- We want the maps to be **constitutional**. It's that simple.