

Tricia Melillo

From: Corinne Dodge <corinnedodge@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 30, 2022 11:23 PM
To: Tricia Melillo
Subject: Testimony for HB 50

To Senate Elections Law Committee Members regarding Testimony for HB 50 1/31/22

Chair James Gray and Election Law Members:

Please accept my public testimony and post it into the Senate public record. My name is Corinne Dodge, and I live in Derry, NH.

I oppose HB 50 because the House redistricting map proposed will needlessly deny 56 NH towns their own dedicated House seat. I believe that Chester is one of those towns, and that according to the HB50 proposal, a part of my own town of Derry would become a floterial district with Chester. I have absolutely no objection with that what-so-ever, if it means that Chester will also have its' own House district as the NH Constitution mandates.

I say that 56 towns were “*NEEDLESSLY denied*” their own House seat because there is in fact a *nonpartisan proposed House Map* available to you right now which would deny only 40 towns their own House seat instead of 56, an improvement of 40%.(Map-a-thon Map) If you as a Senate Election Law Committee member truly believe in following the NH Constitution regarding redistricting requirements, and if you are truly interested as a committee member in approving a competitive map that is fair to all NH voters, please consider using this alternate map. *I repeat, this is a non-partisan map.* If on the other hand, your primary objective in approving any redistricting map, is to guarantee that your political party will most likely win a very large majority of NH elections for the next 10 years no matter what NH voters want, then you really do believe that gerrymandering is acceptable, because that is exactly what you will be doing.

I ask you: what criteria do you as a committee member think is more important than supporting the 16 NH towns who would be cheated out of their dedicated House seat? We citizens have yet to hear that criteria. I ask you this because it looks to many of us who have been attending and speaking at redistricting public meetings faithfully since last April, that winning elections for the next ten years at all cost *is* your primary criteria.

Please, prove us wrong on that! Give us a competitive House map which *everyone* can recognize as fair.

Thank you

