

Good afternoon Senators,

First, thank you for the time and energy you devote to the state.

Already you have heard and will continue to hear statistics that detail the weaknesses in the current bill. Instead of repeating facts you already know, allow me to spend a few moments on a more holistic view - exploring common sense in achieving redistricting goals.

Common sense says:

- That moving one town instead of forty plus towns makes common sense.
- That making districts non-competitive flies in the face of democracy's best intentions.
- That people want to be able to choose their representatives and not have them chosen for them.
- That no voting citizen wants to feel their vote is wasted.
- That you are hard working, committed, but volunteer representatives of the people and not king makers.
- That what is not common sense is that parties should fear the outcome of competitive local elections.

Consider putting politics aside, and act in the name of common sense redistricting.

Thank you,
Bruce Berk