

January 10, 2022

Senators Gray, Birdsell, and Soucy,

Because both Senate and Executive Council districts are larger than Representative districts and because certain towns and cities exist as partisan entities, your tasks require big picture (forest not tree) approaches. I suggest the existing model of Regional Planning Commissions. They represent long-standing communities of interest which routinely work together for common goals. Those regional entities model what kind of districts would benefit each Senator and Executive Councilor, who must know and represent all the citizens, all the constituencies, of his/her district. That can only happen if you craft districts with commonalities and reasonable compactness. Please come together respectfully to re-draft districts, not partisanly but for the citizens of our State. Your final draft decisions should represent ALL New Hampshire citizens - Republican, Democrat, and the majority who choose to be the non-partisan Undeclared.

Thank you for your time investment and improved process in this current redistricting effort. The public truly had a voice in both the hearings county by county (where Senators were there to listen) and today's hearing about your draft proposed plans. But unless your revisions reflect the voices you have been hearing through public input, you'll be as bad as an election where votes were gathered but not counted.

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