



ACTION OF THE WEEK

November 16, 2018

Redistricting and gerrymandering!

Your Action of the Week is to education yourself about proposed redistricting and attend one of the forums.

Gerrymandering, the drawing of political boundaries to advantage one party over others or to create non-competitive districts, is a huge problem around the nation and here in Oregon. We saw with our November election, especially at the state level, far too many non-competitive seats. We know competitive political races bring more people out to vote, thus increasing our relatively high turnout.

Redistricting will happen in 2021 from the next census. It is highly likely that Oregon will gain an additional Congressional seat, so the fair, nonpartisan redrawing will be even more important, and difficult.

Secretary of State, Dennis Richardson convened a commission to look at and make recommendations for how this process should work. The commission's report suggested following the lead of CA and made some suggestions for how it might work. Read that report here <https://tinyurl.com/ORSOSReport>. No action has been taken on the report.

Willamette Week in Portland reported former Sen Kevin Mannix proposed an initiative for the Nov 2020 ballot to direct how redistricting should work. His initiative would advantage rural counties over urban. Read the Willamette Week article here: <https://tinyurl.com/MannixPetition>.

The Oregon League of Women Voters and Oregon Common Cause are co-sponsoring a series of Redistricting Reform Forums across the state. The League supports a redistricting process putting the redistricting process back into the hands of voters to create fair, representative districts.

Redistricting Reform Forums:

Tuesday, Nov. 20th, 1:30-3:30 pm, Curry Public Library in **Gold Beach**

Tuesday, Nov. 27th, from 11 am-1 pm, Atonement Lutheran Church in **Newport**

Tuesday, Nov. 27th, from 7-8:30 pm, Coos Bay City Hall in **Coos Bay**

Wednesday, Nov. 28th, from 5-8 pm, Taborspace in the Copeland Commons in **Portland**

Thursday, Nov. 29th, from 6:30-8 pm PCC Willow Creek Main Building, rm. 103 in **Washington County**

Tuesday, Dec. 4th, from (TBD), (TBD) in **Albany**

Thursday, Dec. 6th, from 12-1 pm, Hilton Garden Inn, hosted by the City Club in **Springfield**

Thursday, Dec. 6th, from 6-8 pm, Wilsonville Public Library in **Willsonville** |

(TBD), (Corvallis Library) in **Corvallis**