

COMMON CAUSE V. RUCHO

THE COMMON CAUSE STORY: REDISTRICTING REFORM

COMMON CAUSE IS ACTIVELY WORKING IN 16 STATES TO MOVE IMPARTIAL SOLUTIONS.

Until the U.S. Supreme Court decides to end gerrymandering nationally, the citizen-activists of Common Cause continue to promote solutions – such as impartial commissions, the participation of nonpartisan agencies, unbiased and clear standards, and transparency requirements – that already work or are moving forward in several states.

- **California:** Defendant in a lawsuit to protect provisions of state law requiring diversity on the Citizens Redistricting Commission and pushing for county and municipal reforms based on the statewide commission model Common Cause fought to pass.
- **Delaware:** Supporting legislation that has previously passed the State Senate to give more power to citizens in the drawing of General Assembly districts.
- **Florida:** Won court cases resulting in new congressional and state senate maps that Common Cause and Fair Districts Now coalition co-plaintiff League of Women Voters of Florida drafted.
- **Georgia:** Building a new coalition to examine options for reform and to advocate for solutions that empower Georgians.
- **Illinois:** Endorsed Independent Map Amendment and filed amicus brief in Supreme Court of Illinois to put proposal back on the ballot.
- **Indiana:** Successfully pushed for creation of a legislative study committee to examine better redistricting models and now lobbying the committee to back strong citizen-driven reforms.
- **Maryland:** One of the leaders of the Tame the Gerrymander coalition, which sponsored a relay race around a badly gerrymandered congressional district, holds an annual Elbridge Gerry birthday party, and works closely with Republican Governor Larry Hogan's redistricting commission and legislators to end the unfair drawing of districts by Democratic leaders in the General Assembly.
- **Michigan:** Part of a coalition holding public education events about gerrymandering and examining the viability of a ballot initiative on independent redistricting.
- **Minnesota:** Organized an initial meeting of stakeholders from around the state to launch a coalition committed to redistricting reform.
- **Nebraska:** Succeeded in pushing for passage of a bill to create an independent citizen redistricting commission that was ultimately vetoed by the governor. Now examining the possibility of a ballot initiative.
- **New Mexico:** Succeeded in the creation of an independent commission to draw Santa Fe City Council districts and pushing the legislature to create a statewide commission for state legislative and congressional districts.
- **North Carolina:** Leading a strong broad-based coalition spanning the political spectrum pushing for legislation that would bring the Iowa model of redistricting reform to the state. The measure, which has previously cleared the North Carolina House but not yet passed the Senate, would empower a nonpartisan legislative research agency to draw districts. The effort dates back more than a decade.
- **Ohio:** Examining whether to push for a ballot initiative that would extend to congressional as well as General Assembly districts bipartisan reforms won last year in Issue 1.
- **Oregon:** Leading the Redistricting Matters coalition, which won important reforms that will bring transparency and greater public participation to the redistricting process.
- **Pennsylvania:** Leading the Fair Districts PA coalition, which is backing a constitutional amendment to create an independent redistricting commission.
- **Wisconsin:** Holding legislators accountable by shining a light on their redistricting reform stances and maintaining a consistent media drumbeat about Wisconsin's badly skewed districts.