Instructions to presenter

• This powerpoint comes with a suggested script for you to use. The script appears in the Notes section of this powerpoint.

• You should have been given some handouts to pass out to the audience – please remember to distribute them at the end of your presentation.

• Please remember to ask for sign-ups at the end of your presentation.

• This presentation is about 30 minutes long – skip slides depending on how much time you actually have.
California’s New Redistricting Commission

Our once-in-a-decade opportunity to map California’s future
What is redistricting?

Each district must have the same number of residents.
Over time, districts become uneven in size.
What is redistricting?

Every ten years, the district lines have to be redrawn to make each district even in size again.

Based on Census data
Why does redistricting matter?

Redistricting shapes the landscape in which elections are conducted.

For a decade at a time

⅔ Democrat
⅓ Republican

½ Democrat
½ Republican
Redistricting affects whether minorities have a say in the outcome of elections.

Example #1

Minorities make up only \( \frac{1}{4} \) in all four districts.
Redistricting affects whether minorities have a say in the outcome of elections.

Example #2

Minorities make up $\frac{3}{4}$ in one district
How does Proposition 11 change redistricting?

**California Legislature**

Before Proposition 11:
- Draws Congressional districts
- Draws State Assembly districts
- Draws State Senate districts
- Draws Board of Equalization districts

Proposition 11 transfers redistricting authority to:
- Citizens
- Redistricting Commission

- Draws State Assembly districts
- Draws State Senate districts
- Draws Board of Equalization districts
What will the commission do?

Citizens Redistricting Commission

- Hire staff, consultants, and attorneys
- Hold meetings to collect public input
- Draw and adopt new district maps

From Jan. 1 to Sept. 15, 2011
Why does the commission matter?

It matters who draws the lines:

- Elected officials can have different incentives than commissioners.
  
  - It’s human nature for incumbents to want a good chance of getting re-elected.
    
    - Sometimes the maps they draw prioritize their interests ahead of other considerations.
Why does the commission matter?
Who should apply for the commission?

People who are:

- Civic-minded
- Community-oriented
- Able to work well with others
- Diverse
Qualifications:

- Ability to be impartial
- Appreciation for diversity
- Analytical skills

Commissioners do not have to be redistricting experts.
How do I get on the commission?

Top five things applicants need to do:

1. Fill out the application form (the “initial application”)
2. Fill out a supplemental application form (if eligible)
3. Have three recommendation letters sent in (if eligible)
4. Submit Form 700 (if invited)
5. Participate in interview (if invited)

Deadline is Feb. 12, 2010

After several more steps, the commission will be in place by Dec. 31, 2010
What are some key things to know?

Top five things that applicants should know:

1. Partisan make-up of commission
2. Rules about who is eligible to serve
3. Rules for what commissioners can do and cannot do
4. Time commitment
5. Compensation and reimbursement

- Registered voter
- Voted in 2 of last 3 elections
- Conflict of interests

RULES
1. You can...
2. You can’t...
3. You can...
4. You can’t
What can I do to help?

- Become informed
- Consider applying for the commission
- Spread the word
- Help us compile a list of potential applicants – can you give us 5 names?
Where can I get more information?

- Read the fact sheets you just received
- Go online at www.wedrawthelines.ca.gov
- Call the California State Auditor toll-free at 1-866-356-5217
- Email your questions to votersfirstact@auditor.ca.gov
Where can I get tools for outreach?

You can go to the following websites to download this powerpoint and get other tools for encouraging people to apply:

- www.commoncause.org/redistrictingCA

- [insert other link as appropriate]