Redistricting Terms

Reapportionment
- The process of assigning seats in a legislative body among pre-existing political subdivisions such as states or counties.

Redistricting
- The redrawing and revision of district boundaries (Congress, state legislatures, county commissions, city councils, school boards).

Gerrymandering
- A plan or a district intentionally drawn to advantage one group or party over another, sometimes identified by bizarre shapes.

Who Draws the Lines

State Legislatures
In most states, the state legislature has primary control of the redistricting process, both for state legislative districts and for congressional districts. Examples: Missouri, New Jersey, North Carolina.

Independent or Citizen Commissions
Independent or Bipartisan commissions that add input or control the process. These commissions have a mix of advisory and voting power. Examples: Arizona, Michigan, Montana.
WHY DOES REDISTRICTING MATTER?

The drawing of district lines can drastically determine election outcomes.
District maps are often drawn in secret by the party in power.
- Check out [www.commoncause.org/Rucho](http://www.commoncause.org/Rucho) for an example of a partisan gerrymander that affected a college campus.
We must hold our elected officials accountable by demanding for a transparent process.

How you can help!

- Attend a public hearing: [www.scsj.org/hearings](http://www.scsj.org/hearings)
- Call your state representatives or members of House Committee on Redistricting and Senate Committee on Redistricting and Election
  - Engage with legislators on social media (stay respectful!)
- Connect with an organization that is currently involved in Community of Interest work
  - Examples: Southern Coalition for Social Justice, Common Cause, Democracy NC, and NC Counts Coalition
- Attend a protest or rally
- Organize your peers to attend rallies, call their representatives, attend community of interest sessions or draft opinionated editorials.
- Write Op-eds, public comments on the State Legislature Redistricting Site and blog posts
  - To submit an official comment to the legislature visit: [https://ncleg.gov/requestforcomments/38](https://ncleg.gov/requestforcomments/38)

REDISTRICTING TOOLKIT

For additional information about how to get involved, contact information for legislators, and many other helpful resources please visit: [bit.ly/redistrictingtoolkitNC](http://bit.ly/redistrictingtoolkitNC)