# Redistricting in North Carolina





Current NC Congressional Maps



2013 - 2017 NC Congressional Districts that contain the infamously racially gerrymandered 12th District

#### **REDISTRICTING TERMS 101**

#### • 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

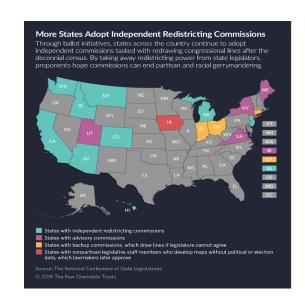
# **State Legislatures**

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

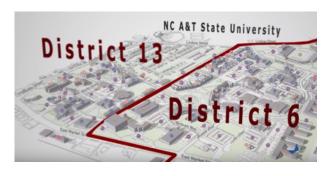
Independent or Bipartisan commissions that add input or control the process. These commissions have a mix of advisory and voting power.

**Examples: Arizona, Michigan, Montana** 



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#### WHY DOES REDISTICTING 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 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
- 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



# REDISTRICTING TOOLKIT

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



