CITIZEN VOTING AGE REDISTRICTING

Some legislators want to shred the Constitution and change how we have decided electoral representation for nearly 200 years.

Every 10 years, following the decennial census, states redraw voting boundaries to comply with the Constitutional requirement of equal population in legislative and congressional districts. In modern history, the process has always been done using total population – every person, regardless of age, gender, citizenship status or ethnicity.

WHAT IS CITIZEN VOTING AGE POPULATION (CVAP) REDISTRICTING?

An effort to let states erase non-citizens and minors from representation in legislative and Congressional maps by deliberately omitting them from the count used to draw districts.

Some states want to draw districts based on citizen voting age rather than using total population. This would result in districts in violation of core constitutional values.

WHO DOES IT HELP?

CVAP redistricting is a part of a long-term ploy to rig our democracy to help "Republicans and non-Hispanic whites," according to Republican strategists.

WHO DOES IT HURT?

Everyone who lives in the United States is hurt by skewing the census count. Accurate data is essential to fairly distributing essential resources. It especially hurts communities of color and children and diverts resources away from the communities who need it most.

The Fourteenth Amendment requires congressional districts to be apportioned among the states by "counting the whole number of persons in each State." This ended the three-fifths compromise, which counted enslaved Americans as less than a person in congressional apportionment. All states now draw congressional districts using total population.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Join the fight for Fair Maps. We’re already fighting back in states like Texas, Nebraska, Arizona and Missouri to ensure that no one is erased from representation. Join the fight and tell your state legislators to require the use of total population in redistricting.